

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Dipping Into Our Reserves

THE Financial Secretary and his other official colleagues yesterday offered suave but not wholly convincing replies to the numerous points raised a week ago in the Budget debate, and they only partially succeeded in justifying Government's policies relating to financing, education, housing, Public Works development projects and such like. The Hon. Arthur Clarke dealt ruthlessly with the controversial subject of floating a public loan to finance capital expenditure and left nobody in two minds as to Government's convictions about this proposal. There will be no loan. But logical though Mr. Clarke might be about the financial drawbacks of floating loans at five or six per cent, few will be impressed by his somewhat airy dismissal of the argument that projects such as the Tai Lam Chung reservoir, the Kai Tak airport extension and the new Kowloon Hospital are as much for the benefit of posterity as they are to meet present-day demands.

NONE of these schemes can be placed in the category of short-term expedients, notwithstanding the Financial Secretary's vision of easy distillation of sea water through atomic power; they will remain permanent features of the Colony's amenities, and their value to future generations must be assessed accordingly. But if Government is determined that posterity shall not have to pay anything for these benefits (other than recurrent expenditure) and that the necessary capital shall be raised by the taxpayers of today, then it is with some relief that we find the Financial Secretary putting forward the suggestion that recourse be made to some of the reserves which the post-war Colony has built up for itself. As Mr. Clarke so trenchantly expressed it: "We have no real shortage of liquid reserves. Why should we not simply draw on our reserves, the reserves which we have accumulated, and leave posterity to rebuild them or not as they wish?" Indeed, why not? Except that it is a rather startling change to the oft-repeated official theme that reserves are there for the future and must remain untouched.

FOR our part we welcome the suggestion. Applied judiciously it is a policy that can do no harm to the Colony's future financial position, and at the same time it possesses the attribute of allowing the community to share some of the profits which it has helped to create. The Financial Secretary deprecates the prospect of additional taxation because "I am a taxpayer myself, and tax increases hurt me just as much as they hurt anybody else." But this question of further taxation goes deeper than that. No matter how it is applied—direct or indirect—it must have an impact on the living standards of the people. It is agreed that compared with other parts of the world taxation is not high, yet that too must be evaluated in relation to the services which the public receives for its money. What it is necessary to emphasise is that taxation increases should be treated as a last resort. If, by dipping to current reserves, the Financial Secretary can render new taxation unnecessary, and at the same time not gravely imperil the Colony's financial state, then he should be encouraged to pursue that method of financing long-term development projects.

Napalm Bombs Rained Down On Rebel Forces

The West Decides No Rearming Of West Germany Yet

Paris, Mar. 24. The Western High Commissioners in Germany have decided not to approve for the time being a West German constitutional amendment, permitting the Federal Republic to rearm, the French Foreign Ministry stated today.

A statement issued by the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee said a note to this effect had been received from the Foreign Ministry today.

The assembly committee's statement summarising the Foreign Office's note said: "The effect of the amendment to article 73 of the Fundamental Law (the West German constitution) would have been to give the Federal Republic its military sovereignty immediately."

"Such an amendment could only be accepted when the treaty setting up a European defence community enters into force and within the treaty's framework."

"The French view having prevailed, the Allied High Commission will not accept the amendment."

FRENCH FEAR

The French stand is motivated by the fear that the amendment could be used to rearm Western Germany outside the European army.

The American and British High Commissioners were reported here to have been willing to accept the amendment.

Diplomatic quarters here feared this latest development would not help a rapid settlement of the Saar question which is a prerequisite for French ratification of the EDC treaty.

West German political parties who are hostile to the Europeanisation of the Saar, were expected to stiffen their attitude following France's failure to agree to the constitutional amendment.

The independent evening newspaper *Le Monde* today published the latest reports in Franco-German friction under the headline of "Franco-German Tension."—Reuter.

BRITAIN AND THE EDC

London, Mar. 24. The government leader in the House of Lords, the Marquess of Salisbury, told the House that negotiations about the form of British association with the European defence community had been in progress with France and other EDC countries and "a very large measure of agreement has already been reached."

He added that the key to further progress now lies in the early establishment of the EDC which would provide a German contribution.

The Berlin Conference, he said, had shown quite definitely that the Soviet position in Germany had not changed and that no early agreement on German re-unification could be expected.

—France-Press.

Suicide Found Guilty Of Murder

London, Mar. 24. An inquest jury claimed tonight that Ronald Chesney, 45, bearded international smuggler, murdered his wife and mother-in-law in an old folks home here.

The inquest—virtually the trial of a dead man—was on Chesney's party-loving wife, Isobel, 43, and her mother, the eccentric self-styled "Lady" Mary Menzies, 73.

Erwin Kuhn, a German police official from Cologne, told the coroner that after Chesney shot himself in a wood in Germany he saw Sonia Winnickers, Chesney's beautiful German mistress.

She gave him Chesney's last letter to her.

In it he said: "I want you to look into your eyes and again and hold you close. You know I am not guilty."

JUNGLE SET ABLAZE NEAR DIEN BIEN PHU

New Air Technique

Hanoi, Mar. 24. French planes loosed the war's biggest fire-bomb attack against Communist reinforcements rushing to the encircled French stronghold of Dien Bien Phu, the French Command announced tonight.

Huge stretches of jungle were set ablaze and rebel losses were believed high.

The Vietminh rebels, meanwhile, struck back in the Red River delta around Hanoi with a series of ambushes and raids in a bold attempt to isolate the Tonkin capital and cripple the supply channel feeding Dien Bien Phu.

Some 185 Reds were killed when they launched a wave of surprise attacks against highways, the railway and outposts.

Another move in the action-packed day saw a large French amphibious fleet leap-frog further up the coast in Central Vietnam to cut off the Communist-held provincial capital of Binh Dinh. Two landings were made further south earlier as part of Operation Atlantic.

French Headquarters here said an entirely new technique was used to launch heavy blows in the air strikes concentrated a few miles north and northwest of Dien Bien Phu. Thousands of gallons of napalm jelled gasoline bombs were poured on the Reds along the Pavi road leading to the isolated fortress.

The operation included two massive waves of planes, it said.

First Fairchild C-119 planes with French crews dived low on the Reds, then abruptly zoomed upwards as canons of napalm sited out through gaping air doors. Then dozens of Dakota transport bombers swept over. Crewmen shoved out scores of cans of napalm fused to explode 20 yards above the ground, scattering the whole area with a curtain of fiery death.

An area three kilometres long and one kilometre wide was "completely saturated" each time a spokesman claimed. He said Vietminh casualties must have been high.

EVERY SPLIT SECOND

A new device helped swift launching of the cans. Following the suggestion of a French Air Force sergeant, racks were installed the whole length inside each plane, allowing the napalm containers to be discharged in rapid succession every split second.

Similar strikes were aimed at Provincial Highway 41, which the Reds are using to pour men and materials into their siege of Dien Bien Phu over a short-cut from the direction of the Red China border.

Returning pilots said rebel anti-aircraft fire was strong but they could see Vietminh soldiers scrambling to escape the flames as more than a square mile of forest land was turned into an inferno.

In the camp itself, Red flames downed a helicopter in flames as it took off from the isolated South outpost after landing a cargo of ammunition.

HELICOPTER CRASHES

Hanoi, Mar. 24. A French helicopter, carrying battle casualties, crashed in flames while taking off from Dien Bien Phu, French fortress in Northern Indo-China, and killed all on board.—Reuter.

A HAPPY PRINCESS



Princess Margarethe, heiress to the Danish throne, enjoys herself skiing in Norway, where, with her sisters, Princesses Benedikte and Anne Marie they are spending a winter holiday in the Norwegian mountains. — London Express.

Probe Into Handing Over Of Royal Navy Funds To Japanese Bank

(OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Mar. 24. The British Treasury said today that active inquiries are being made in London and Tokyo to ascertain why certain Royal Navy funds had been removed from the custody of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and entrusted to the Shinwa Bank in Japan.

The Treasury said it had no direct say in the matter and hinted that it would like to see the account — said to involve some £80,000 a month — returned to the Hongkong Bank.

The news surprised London financial circles. It is pointed out that this is the first time in history a British bank has lost control and the handling of sterling funds for the Royal Navy in foreign waters to a competing native bank.

The London Evening Standard's diarist comments: "The transfer of Royal Navy finances is a blow to British prestige."

The decision to transfer the account to the Shinwa Bank was apparently made by a representative of the Australian Treasury who has been responsible for the financing of all British forces in Japan. The account was removed from Hong Kong some months ago but came to light following signing of the UN forces agreement.

NO CONSULTATIONS

One of the most surprising aspects of the situation is that the change-over was made between the Australian Treasury representative and the Japanese Ministry of Finance without prior consultation with either the Royal Navy or the Hongkong Bank.

Now the British Treasury admits that it hadn't requested transfer of the account which suggests it was not consulted either.

An official of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation said: "We contested this decision from August to October last year, but were unable to get any change. It is most disappointing to lose such an account. We don't know the reason for it."

Financial experts at the Japanese Embassy in London were able to throw no new light on the situation. But they explained that the Shinwa Bank had apparently been chosen to handle Royal Navy funds because being the largest bank in Nagasaki, and having "intimate relations" with the navy, by naval base of Sasebo, it was fully competent to deal with such matters.

The British Treasury issued the following statement tonight: "Attention has been drawn to a report from Tokyo alleging that funds of the Royal Navy in so far as they are needed for payment of naval expenses in Japan are being handled by a Japanese bank rather than the Tokyo branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation."

"In fact, the Royal Navy has so reduced its establishment that at present it keeps no account at all in that country. Should the need to do so arise at a later date suitable arrangements will be made in co-operation with other Commonwealth forces in the area."

"Discussions on these arrangements have been in hand for some time past."

ATTACKED BY A TERRORIST

Casablanca, Mar. 24. A local wool guild chief, 31 Mohammed ben Abdelkader, was seriously wounded by a Moroccan terrorist last night. The police said today.

The terrorist fled into a maze of alleys after hitting the merchant in the stomach with two revolvers. He was seen in the street in the aftermath of the attack.

Ben Abdelkader, who was wounded in a leg, was taken to a hospital.

H-Bomb Explosion 379 Persons Known To Be Affected

Pearl Harbour, Mar. 24. Persons known to have been accidentally exposed to atomic radiation in the massive March 1 Bikini hydrogen explosion totalled at least 379 today, with possibly others still to be discovered.

A Navy announcement disclosed that the United States tanker Patapasco with 80 men and six officers aboard had been contaminated by radio-active "fallouts" of the ashes from the Bikini blast.

The announcement said that the men aboard the Patapasco were not dangerously exposed, but they were only the latest known to have been affected by the unexpectedly massive blast whose "hot" ashes in one case were said to have fallen 1,200 miles away.

Meanwhile there were these other developments:

1.—Senator John W. Bricker (Republican, Ohio) and three unidentified Congressmen prepared to leave for Eniwetok atoll in the Marshall Islands, indicating that still other tests are near.

2.—United States and Japanese specialists met at the Japanese Foreign Office in Tokyo for a joint study of the case in which 23 Japanese fishermen aboard the fishing vessel Fukuryu Maru were burned by the radio-active ash some 60 miles from Bikini. Japanese political groups demanded an end to hydrogen experiments in the mid-Pacific.

3.—The Gaum authorities reported that 28 American Air Force weather observers on Rongerik Island, some 180 miles east of Bikini had been found unharmed, after being sent to hospital at Kwajalein.

4.—Native inhabitants of Ujae Island 100 miles south of Bikini, had been removed from the island and will not be allowed to return until heavy rains wash away the radio-active particles left by the "fallout."—United Press.

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Flood Threat To Baghdad

Baghdad, Mar. 24. The Iraqi authorities have decided to blast the dykes protecting the banks of the Tigris River upstream from Baghdad in order to save the capital from inundation. It was learned here tonight.

In view of this measure, which will be taken tomorrow night, thousands of residents living in mud huts in the immediate vicinity of the dykes have been evacuated with the help of the Police and armed forces.

The present floods are the worst since 1941, the Chairman of the Water Board said here tonight. Thousands of acres of cultivated land are now under water as the river broke its dykes south-west of Baghdad. — France-Press.

He Agrees With Eisenhower

Washington, Mar. 24. Senator Joseph McCarthy said that he was in complete agreement with President Dwight Eisenhower who earlier had declared that one could not be both a participant and a judge at the same time.

He declared that he did not intend to be a judge or to cast a vote in the committee hearing. However, he maintained his right to question witnesses during the hearing which is to open next week. — France-Press.

Lyttelton Turns Down Suggestion

London, Mar. 24. Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, British Colonial Secretary, rejected a suggestion from a Labour member in the House of Commons today for a conference of Malays, Chinese, Indians, Eurasians and Europeans to help bring about a united, democratically controlled Malaya. — Reuter.

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FRENCH THREAT TO ARMY TREATY

Opposition Move Planned By Socialists

Paris, Mar. 24.

A major crisis is brewing in the Socialist Party over the European Army Treaty, the ratification of which largely depends on Socialist support.

Socialist Deputies are planning to send to all local party branches next week a pamphlet opposing ratification, informed quarters said today.

The organisers of this move claim that at least half of the 105 Socialist members of the National Assembly will sign the document. They hope to influence the vote of the extraordinary National Party Congress, which is to decide whether Socialist Parliamentarians are to support ratification.

The Party's Secretary-General, M. Guy Mollet, who leads the Socialist supporters of the EDC, is planning to summon the Congress in the first half of May, once Britain's new terms for association with the European Army have been made public.

Political quarters generally believe the Party Congress will vote in favour of ratification, but only due to the powerful block votes from the northern legislatures which support M. Mollet's views.

If, however, the Congress decides to impose party dis-

cipline in the ratification vote about 40 Socialist Deputies are expected to revolt and expose themselves to the threat of expulsion.

The Socialist opposition to the EDC is led by such notable party leaders as former Defence Minister, M. Jules Moch, former War Minister, M. Max Lejeune, and Chairman of the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee, M. Daniel Mayer.

"STRONG ENOUGH"

M. Moch, who is acting as rapporteur on the EDC treaty in the Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee, today told the Committee that if Western Germany was rearmament it would lead to the formation of an equal number of divisions in Eastern Germany.

The Atlantic coalition was now strong enough to prevent "any military excursions without risks," M. Moch said.

Rearmament was indispensable in 1950 to remove the deadly danger of attack with no serious risks for the aggressor. But the potential aggressor is now fully aware that such an action would unleash a world war.

"Negotiations for the consolidation of peace by disarmament are thus made possible in 1954. They have been started in New York and the Berlin conference suggested that they should be speeded up."

"The talks are incompatible with the rearmament of a state which is already disarmed and they must be given priority over German rearmament," M. Moch added.—Reuter.

Grisly Finds In Caves Of Iwo Jima

Iwo Jima, Mar. 24.

Captain George Bleber of Williamsburg, Pennsylvania, an Air Force chaplain, estimated today there were at least 10,000 Japanese bodies in the thousands of caves honeycombing this former Japanese defence bastion.

Captain Bleber, who has charted 18 of the largest cave systems on the island, said he had seen "at least 5,000 Japanese skeletons and bodies" as he carried out explorations far below the ground.

The horror and savagery of the battle of Iwo Jima was reduplicated two days ago when the U.S. Third Marine Division landed here in a amphibious training exercise.

Captain Bleber, who is attached to the Air Force base here, has been exploring the caves since last autumn. One of the biggest systems he has explored is at the foot of Mount Suribachi.

He said the network of interconnected caverns hewn out of the soft volcanic pumice covered an area of 300 yards and was dug at four levels under the mountain.

"There are 120 steps between the first and second levels," he said.

Captain Bleber found hospital caves, messrooms and living quarters during his inspections. He once found a doctor's office complete with medicines, laboratory equipment, a swivel chair and the doctor's watch on a silver chain. Everything was burned to a black, powdery crisp, he said, indicating that the cave had been destroyed by a flame-thrower.—United Press.

"Communists Are On Defensive"

—says Lord Salisbury

London, Mar. 24.

"There is no reason to suppose that the Russians are hankering after a new war," the Marquess of Salisbury, Lord President of the Council, told the House of Lords today.

He added, "I should have thought they had every reason to dislike the idea as much as we do."

In his opinion, there was no doubt that Communism was "on the defensive" at the moment.

He said that freedom was very much alive in Eastern Europe and believed that while the Russians had encouraged other people to "pull out" from the East, they had never been directly involved in hostilities themselves.

He stated, "therefore, we may draw the conclusion that the Russians, with the Western Allies as strong as they have now become, will not wish to embark upon a large-scale war."

Violin Of Match Sticks

Frankfurt, Mar. 23.

A violinist at Bad Homburg has built a violin almost entirely from match sticks.

He claims that its tone matches that of a Stradivarius.

He used 8,000 matches and spent more than 350 hours on its construction.

—China Mail Special.

OBJECTS TO WORD "EMPIRE"

London, Mar. 24.

A Labour member of Parliament, Mr. R. W. Sorensen, suggested in the House of Commons today it was undesirable to use the term "British Empire" when it was "resented in India, Pakistan and Ceylon."

He asked the Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, under what conditions the terms "Commonwealth" and "Empire" were officially used by the Government.

The leader of the House, Mr. H. Crookshank, who replied on the Prime Minister's behalf, said either or both terms could be used.

When Mr. Sorensen said a large part of the Commonwealth resented the term "Empire" Mr. Crookshank said he did not know that he could accept that.

He said he agreed with an answer given by Mr. C. R. Attlee, when Prime Minister, to a similar question in May 1949 when he suggested that this terminology should "keep step with developments" without becoming "rigid or doctrinaire."

Colonel Alan Gomme Duncan, a Conservative, remarked: "Don't you agree that all they have ever known of freedom in India and Pakistan has come from the Empire?"

PROTESTS, LAUGHS

There were loud opposition protests to this but no Government reply.

Mr. John Rankin (Labour) said "Commonwealth" was agreed to at a meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers but so also was the alternative "Empire".

Sir Thomas Moore, Conservative, said "Empire" meant law, order, justice, humanity and hygiene whereas Commonwealth reminded Englishmen of the times of Oliver Cromwell in the 17th century when Britain was a Commonwealth.

His remarks were punctuated by laughter from the Labour benches.

Mr. Sorensen said he was dissatisfied with the Government answer and would raise the subject again another time.—Reuter.

Feisal In Bahrain

Bahrain, Mar. 21.

King Feisal II of Iraq arrived here today by plane for a two-day visit as the guest of Sheikh Salman al Khalifa, the Emir of Bahrain.

The King is to return to Iraq via Bahrain about the Royal yacht.—France-Press.

To Discuss Red China Recognition

Foreign Affairs Debate In Canada

Ottawa, Mar. 25.

The Canadian House of Commons debates foreign policy today with the emphasis expected to be on the question of recognising Communist China.

During his recent world tour, the Canadian Prime Minister, M. Louis St. Laurent, said at a series of press conferences that recognition must come sooner or later, however much Canada might dislike a Communist regime.

Last Monday, he told the House of Commons the Government was not considering recognition at this time.

The same day, the Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Lester Pearson, said in an interview that if China adopted a conciliatory attitude at the Geneva conference next month, Canada might take a new look at the situation.

The leader of the Progressive opposition, Mr. George Drew, so far has opposed recognition. In a foreign affairs debate last January, he said: "We want no bargain with the Devil"—Reuter.

NOT PREPARED

United Nations, N.Y.

Mar. 24.

The United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, told pressmen here tonight that he was not prepared to state at the moment at what point Communist China should enter the United Nations.

He said in order to be truly universal, the United Nations Organisation should include all the principal powers.

Mr. Hammarskjöld said his predecessor, Mr. Trygve Lie, had published a document stating that the veto could not be used with regard to deciding what regime should represent a country on the Security Council and that this was still the view of the Juridical Department of the United Nations Secretariat.—France-Press.

SOVIET MOTION

Geneva, Mar. 24.

A Soviet resolution which would have given Communist China a foothold in the United Nations was defeated today by 11 votes to five in the ninth session of the Economic Commission for Europe.

The Belgian and Czech delegations jointly presented a resolution to convene a meeting within the framework of the United Nations for the development of East-West trade relations.

The Soviet amendment was defeated, but the Belgian-Czech proposal, amended by Britain, was unanimously adopted.—France-Press.

ROME, Mar. 24.

Noted Italian music director and composer Willy Ferrero died today at his home.

Ferrero, who was born in Portland, Maine, of Italian parents on May 21, 1900, directed his first concert at Rome's Opera House at the age of six and was invited to the Russian Imperial Court in 1914.

At 19 Ferrero was appointed leading conductor of the Scala of Milan and of Rome's Augusteo Philharmonic. He directed his last concert at the Rome Academy of St Cecilia in mid-January.—United Press.

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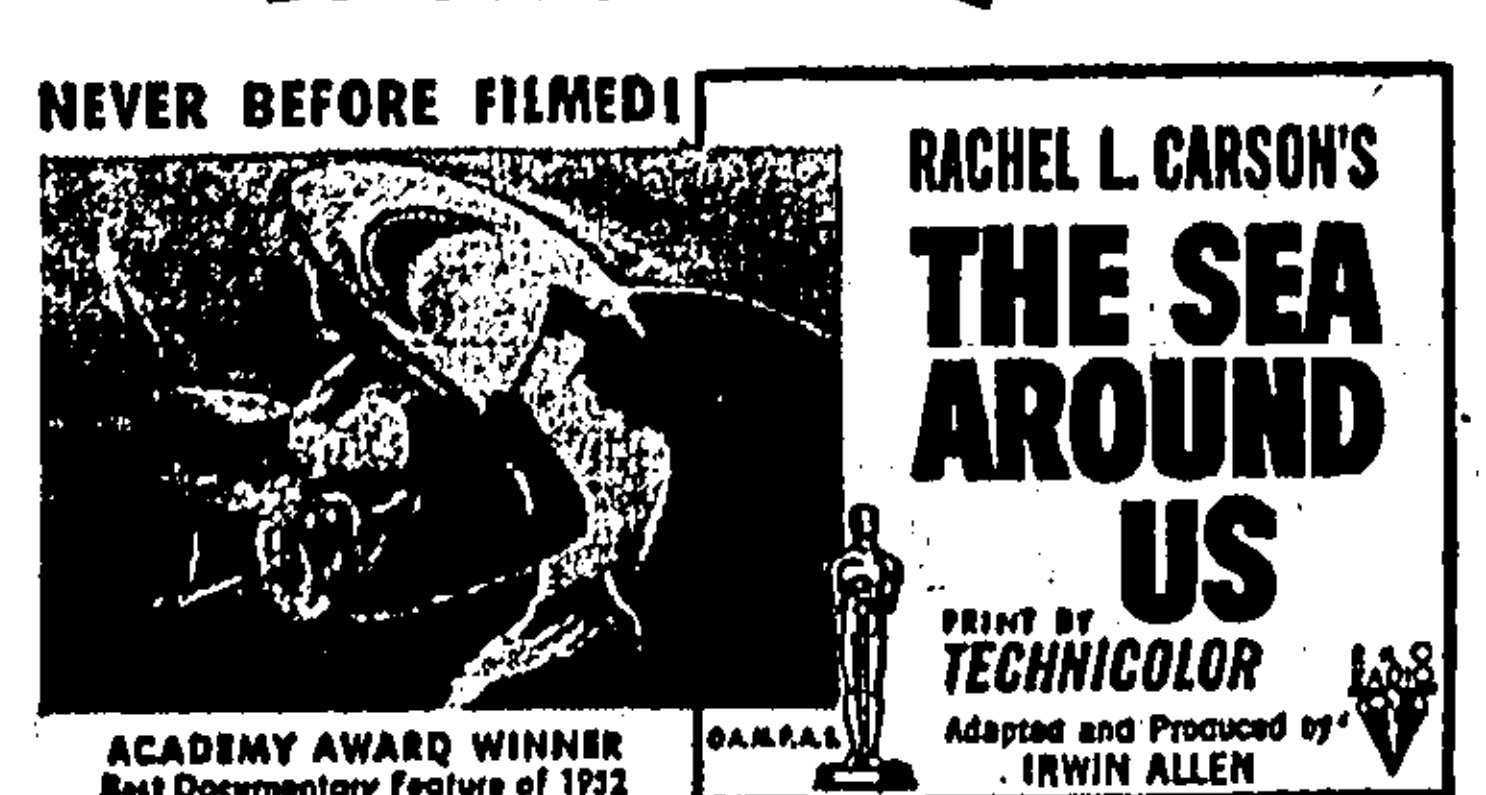


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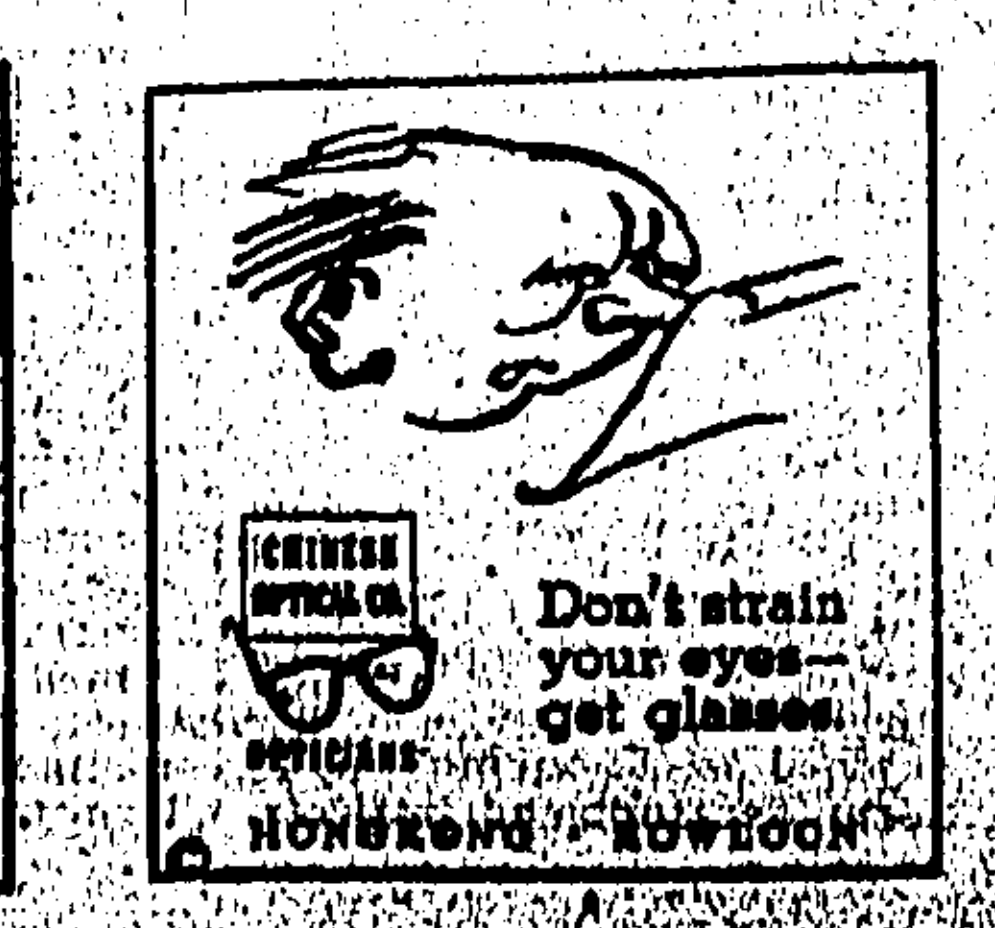
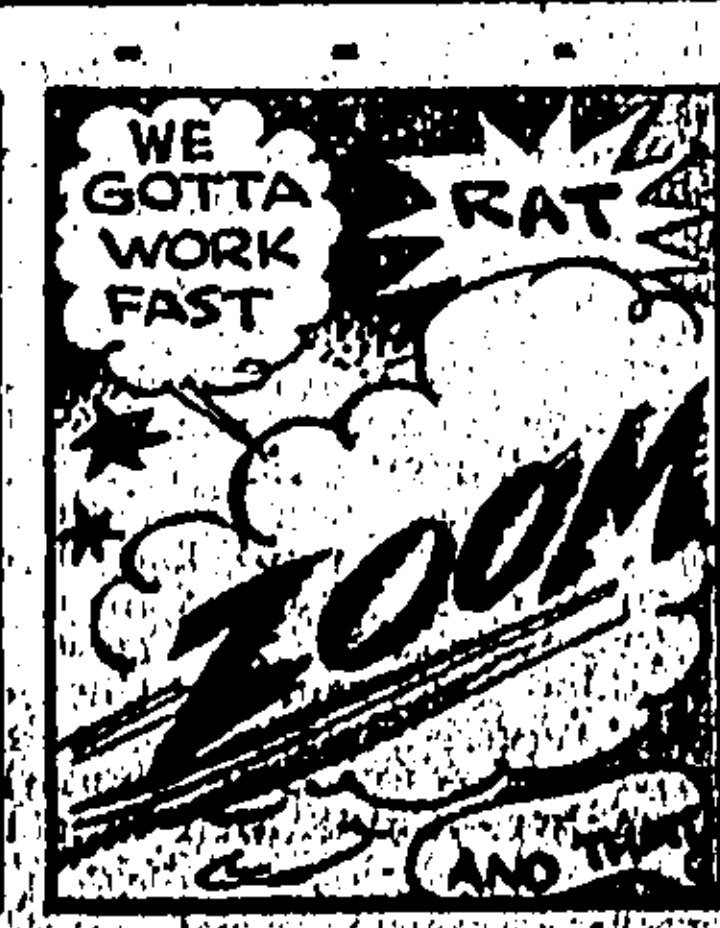
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Soviet 'Jeunesse Doree' Causing Some Alarm

By ELISABETH HUNKIN

A NEW group of people is growing up in the Soviet Union and causing a good deal of alarm. In fact, it must have scandalised the general public or so much publicity would not currently be given to it. It is made up of the sons of often distinguished and successful Soviet citizens, young men who, though members of the Communist Youth League — the Komsomol — wear foppish waistcoats and live in luxury on other people's money. Their irresponsible lives often lead to vice and even crime.

The Soviet Literary Gazette has given the case histories of two such young "parasites," one of them the son of a very well-known Soviet composer of popular songs, Dunayevsky. This young man used his father's reputation to get into the Institute of Cinematography, where he received special treatment. Only after a painful and ugly incident in which he was involved did the directors of the Institute see their mistake.

PRIVILEGES

Another young man, whose father was also highly placed, had consistently received exceptional treatment; he had enjoyed special privileges at school, had been admitted into various institutes, and when he married, had been given a room in which he was not entitled. No wonder, said the Literary Gazette, that he began to regard himself as an exceptional person. He soon drove out his wife and

child, ceased to study and gave up his time to orgies. On the first stage of this slippery slope were some lads described in the Soviet Teachers' Gazette of December 10, 1953, when the paper carried a long article on the undisciplined behaviour of a group of 18 or 19 year-old louts in one of the top forms of a school at Kaluga near Moscow.

These boys used bad language freely, drank and smoked. During lessons they would start singing or boxing or organise a mass exodus from the classroom. They worked only when they felt like it, which wasn't often, and were intolerably rude to their teachers.

SHIELDED

But who were the parents? One was a high official in local government, vice-chairman of the Kaluga Provincial Executive Committee, another was chief engineer of a factory and a Party member, and a third was a major in the Soviet Army—all highly respected people in their respective spheres.

We know next to nothing about the sons and daughters of the top Soviet leaders themselves. Their careers are carefully shielded from the public. And of course, not all the children of prominent Soviet society become "parasites on society," but some obviously do, and this is not a coincidence.

Part of the trouble is that highly placed parents are busy

and have little time in which to help form the characters of their children. It has been pointed out that the decree of September 1953, regulating working hours, was promulgated partly with this in mind.

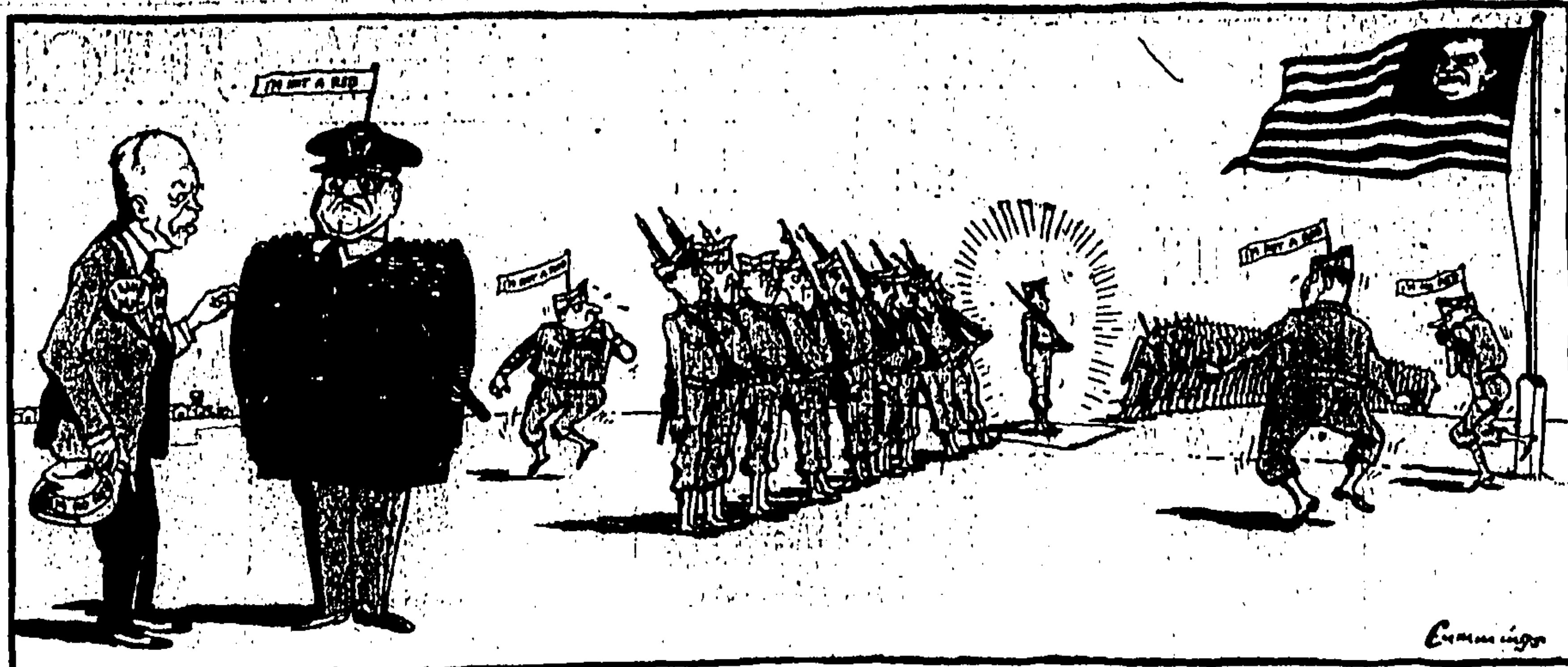
But there are deeper causes too. Nepotism, graft, the struggle to secure advantages, are familiar features of Soviet life, and they are aggravated by the shortage of many things, and particularly of houses.

DISQUIET

The Literary Gazette blames the moral corruption of the "good-time boys" to some extent on the readiness of their parents to transgress the laws of Soviet society on their behalf. The highly placed official, it says, who abuses his position to build himself a private house from State funds and State materials, will be branded as corrupt and degenerate. But what of the father who manages to get a room for his son from accommodation allotted to the department where he works? What of the father who assumes that there is one code of behaviour for Soviet citizens as a whole, but another for himself and his own child?

Young people brought up in this atmosphere think it quite legitimate to ignore the "norms of Communist behaviour" if their father's position, connections or money can help them do it. The result is the emergence of the well-to-do young "spiv," who is causing grave disquiet to the Soviet public at the present time.

His appearance, although Soviet theorists deny it, is in fact inevitable. For it is a peculiarity of the human parent to want his children to gain some benefit from his own success. And wealth and position are bound to be particularly corrupting in a society which has thrown overboard all spiritual values.



"Your buttons clean, trousers pressed, hair cut? O.K., General, you can go and inspect the company containing Senator McCarthy's Private Schine." London Express Service

★ DON IDDON'S DIARY ★

NO ESCAPE ANYWHERE FROM 'THAT MAN'

Atlantic City, Tuesday. I CAME to this year-round resort to get away from "that man" for a couple of days and see how one of America's favourite playgrounds is standing up to the alleged recession.

Atlantic City in March is a bit bleak and barren. The wind howls down the almost deserted boardwalk, the fun-fairs are shuttered, and the restaurants and cocktail lounges are only about one-fifth full.

I ask George Bruni, the general manager of the Claridge, which calls itself "the skyscraper by the sea," how business was.

Mr Bruni said: "Very, very good. We expect to do as well or better than last year. There's no let-up in spending—don't sell Atlantic City short."

I said: "But where are the people? Where are the customers?"

Mr Bruni said: "You happen to have caught us between conventions. Next week and the place will be jumping, and at the beginning of March, when

Atlantic City celebrated its 100th birthday, we had a big deal—11,000 in the convention hall alone."

Mr Bruni added: "We are already thinking of 1955 and 1956. We plan ahead. We are booked up for conventions all this year and next year. Don't judge by superficial appearances. But, say, have you ever met Senator McCarthy?"

'Guy has charm'

I TOLD the hotel manager that I'd come here to have a short holiday from the senator and look into business, or lack of it.

Mr Bruni said, with something that sounded a little like awe: "I had dinner here with Joe some time ago. I wasn't a McCarthy man—I thought his methods were wrong and maybe innocent people were getting hurt, but I don't know."

"The guy has charm and conviction. He put the spell on me. A very convivial feller, likes Bourbon-on-the-rocks. You won't get away

from McCarthy here, or anywhere in the U.S. for that matter."

I am afraid Mr Bruni is right.

During the past few days a lot of liberals have been saying that this is the beginning of the end for McCarthy.

I doubt it. His term in the Senate doesn't expire until 1958; you can expect him around for a long time.

Miss Ada Taylor, the director of sales, a much-travelled woman of English background, said to me: "McCarthy is fighting the Communists better than anyone, isn't he? He's the star attraction, that's what he is."

I managed to lure Miss Taylor off the subject and give me some information about Atlantic City. While we were going through her papers she suddenly produced the Golden Daily Mail of June 23, 1897, and a copy of the first issue of the Daily Mail, May 4, 1896, both in excellent condition.

"I bet you didn't expect to find souvenirs like this here, did you?" she said. The days when Atlantic City was a mad mermaid, a good-time girl on the make, a gangster's moll and gambling hellion are over. Reform has hit the resort. There has been a great clean-up.

I only wish the town behind the front, the squalid coloured section—one-quarter of Atlantic City's 80,000 permanent population are Negroes—had been cleaned up. A great 'pulling-down and building-up' are necessary before Atlantic City becomes an elegant lady.

Impressive

THE boardwalk, lined with huge hotels—the Dennis, the Traymore, the 1,000-roomed Chalfonte Haddon Hall, the Brighton, the Ambassador, and a lot more—is impressive enough.

There are almost as many luxury shops on the front as on New York's Fifth and Madison Avenues of London's Bond Street.

I dropped into one shop which specialised in British goods. No one was in the place except the man behind the counter, and he turned out to be the owner. He said: "We are empty now—we will be jam-packed Easter. I'm not complaining, and I can tell you British goods move well."

"Do you know how much I make a year—I mean myself?" I said I didn't know. The man, short, dark, intent, said: "A fortune. Yes, sir, a fortune. Not bad, eh?" I said: "Not bad."

The man said: "Now I'd like to have your views on Senator McCarthy." I fled.

While I have been here the new unemployment figures were announced—a jump of 534,000 in February, making a total of 3,671,000 idle for the entire nation. And the Congress of Industrial Organizations came out and demanded that Eisenhower act immediately to avert a full depression.

I mentioned these figures to a group of "business men." One said: "Atlantic City will still do all right whatever happens, and I'm not sure anything is going to happen."

"We draw every sort of convention, from the National Cemetery Association to the Grain and Feed Dealers, Plumbers, clergymen, psychiatrists, bankers, schoolteachers, barbers, musicians, lumbermen, laundries, boys' clubs, they all come here."

Build-up

ONE of the reasons why they come to Atlantic City is a brilliant booster spirit. I was handed a pamphlet shortly after I arrived. It said: "Did you know that Atlantic City built the first airport in the world and introduced the name airport to the English language? That Atlantic City was the first community in the world to have a boardwalk and gave the name boardwalk to the dictionary? That Atlantic City was the first city in the world to have an amusement pier? That Atlantic City was the first city to have foot policemen receive their orders by a radio in their caps? And a great many more 'firsts'."

I did not know these things and am not so sure that I can accept them without question, but you will agree that the place did not invent the bushel or hide its glaring light under it.

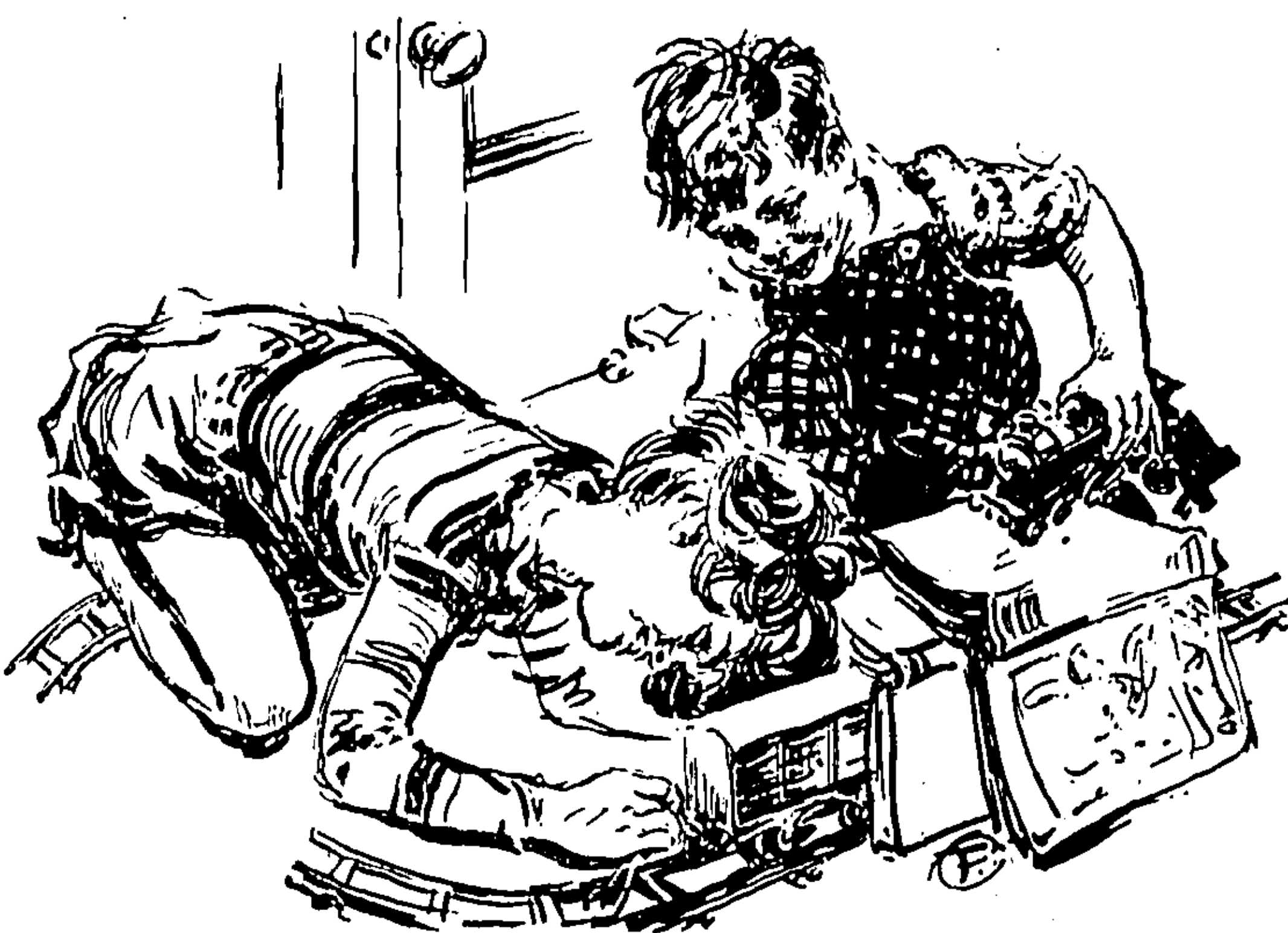
The Miss America contests did undoubtedly originate here. Every year 25,000 single girls between the ages of 15 and 23 compete in contests all over the country, and the 50 winners come here to seek the title of queen. Beauty of face and figure used to be the only tests, but now the girls have to be able to sing, dance, act a little, and demonstrate that they are not illiterate.

Stab at culture

ATLANTIC CITY hasn't exactly gone highbrow; it is having a stab at culture after years of razzle-dazzle.

Incidentally, more newspapers, newsreels, and television cameras turn up to cover the Miss America pageants than any other event in America, including a Presidential Press conference, or a world heavy-weight championship fight.

A local editor told me: "The Miss America pageant is a very small picture story—nothing to look at, except maybe a Miss America. Investigation, hearing, say, have you ever met Senator McCarthy?"



What more can you do?

WHAT ARE GROWING CHILDREN'S FIRST NEEDS? Good food, fresh air and plenty of sleep. But these alone are not really enough. If they're to feel well and keep well, day in and day out, you should give them something more. You should give them daily Ribena. For Ribena—the natural way to take Vitamin C—is a great source of health. It builds strong bones and teeth. It stoutly fights illness and infection. It provides abundant energy. And Ribena is unique: it does so much good in so many ways.

WHAT YOUR DOCTOR KNOWS. Ribena, made only from fresh ripe blackcurrants and pure cane sugar, is a rich source of natural Vitamin C and many other factors essential to good health. It is sweet, delicious and extremely kind to the tenderest digestion. Sponsored by the British Government during the war, Ribena is now used by many famous hospitals and recommended by eminent doctors. Its value has been proved in searching clinical tests. All good reasons why you should get Ribena for your children.

You can give them Ribena

THE NATURAL WAY TO KEEP FIT AND FIGHT INFECTION

TO DOCTORS AND NURSES. The therapeutic value of Ribena for children, nursing and convalescent patients and for the elderly is fully documented in medical reports and papers. If you have not yet received your copies, please write to the Technical Director, V. L. S. Cherry, B.Sc., Ph.D., H. W. CARTER & CO. LTD., The Royal Farnham Laboratories, Chalfont, Bucks., England.

Sole Distributors: S. H. Langdon & Co. Ltd., 1, Lee Road, Hong Kong.



THE BANDITS WITH ONE ARM LEAVE A MEMORY

By Rene MacColl

SUPPOSE MacColl is lying relaxed on the couch of a fashionable psychiatrist (heaven forbid).

The practitioner is playing the little game of "thought association," whereby the patient, on hearing a word rapped out by the doc., has to come back with the first thing that enters his head.

Cries the doc.: "Winthrop Aldrich!" Returns MacColl, quick as the proverbial flash: "Las Vegas!"

That one is going to give the psychiatrist pause. How has MacColl managed to link the name of America's present ambassador to London with the desert gambling town?

Mr Aldrich personifies respectability. Las Vegas embodies the mildly disreputable.

So dingy

AS a former chairman of a bank Mr. A. was all for helping the citizen to conserve his dough. The whole idea of Las Vegas is to part you from it.

If you think Las Vegas is glamorous, I can only say that I don't agree with you: It is one of the dingiest towns I was ever in. It resembles the tatiest end of Broadway rebuilt in the middle of a desert.

But you can gamble legally and right round the clock. And that is enough for most visitors. There are baccarat and roulette, chemin de fer and faro for the Hollywood set in the brilliantly lit places along "the Strip." Those games are the caviar of Las Vegas. But the bread and butter, the lure which regularly, remorselessly pulls in huge sums in little denominations, are the One-Armed Bandits.

There they are, the "fruit machines," at which even the tourist can have a modest go.

Very occasionally somebody hits the jackpot. A glorious torrent of silver comes pouring out of the machine and there is a commotion of envy and admiration from the waiting queue.

who quickly turn back to their own machines with renewed dedication.

It's a lulu

RIGHT. So I read a news item which says that Mr. Winthrop Aldrich is to move into a splendid new ambassadorial home in London.

It's a lulu all right—Winfield House, in Regent's Park. Back in the 'thirties it was the home of Barbara ("Rich Little Rich Girl") Hutton, the Woolworth heiress.

It cost a cool half million pounds to build—a whole lot cooler than it is today.

Time marched on. There was a war. Then a cold war. And then in 1951 the United States Air Force took over Winfield House as an officers' club. And the One-Armed Bandits loved Regent's Park.

The Jackpot

THEY were used to take English money—pounds and shillings and pence and half-pence. And they earned their keep. It was their business to see an officer or a lady or a gentleman in a few minutes—all in half-crowns.

Now and again some one hits the jackpot. But in the interests of decorum there was no ensuing crash of silver. The lucky player went and told an official (who verified that there were indeed "three of a kind" nesting side by side on the face of the machine. Whereupon he would pay out the jackpot from the club's cashbox.

But now the air force has been given three months' notice to quit. And by the end of the year Winthrop Aldrich will be installed.

In reverse

THEY are going to spend nearly £70,000 getting it back into shape for the ambassador. And I don't suppose they will leave even one fruit machine for him to idle away an hour or so.

But in these days when all over the country noble houses are being reduced to the status of museums, and the nostalgic are reduced to saying with a sigh: "I can remember the great days when this place was..." it is rather amusing to think that here in Regent's Park the trend has been abruptly reversed.

What fun Winthrop Aldrich will be able to have whispering behind his hand to some guest about "gibbering" financiers. "You know," my dear fellow, this place used to be a gambling hell. It was a lulu all right.

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

One Lead Creates Bridge Disaster

NORTH 21			
♠	QJ 103		
♥	7652		
♦	85		
♣	KQ3		
WEST			
♠	872		
♥	10762		
♦	Q10		
♣	Q982		
EAST			
♠	65		
♥	AQJ43		
♦	A873		
♣	7		
SOUTH (D)			
♠	AK84		
♥	K8		
♦	K94		
♣	A1054		
North-South vul.			
South	West	North	East
1♠	1♠	1♥	1♥
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead—♥2			

By OSWALD JACOBY

If you don't like the final contract in today's hand, don't expect to get an argument from me. I don't like it either. Neither did South, when the hand was actually played.

This doesn't mean that the bidding was "bad." North's hand wouldn't look any better if he had three small hearts and only two clubs, but a contract of four spades would then be very sound.

Likewise, the South hand wouldn't look any stronger if he had one diamond less and one heart more; but such a slight change would strengthen the combined hands immensely.

The trouble was that North and South each had the same doubleton. Each player thought that this doubleton was an asset, but the duplication made it worthless to both of them.

As the cards were actually dealt out, the final contract of four spades was too difficult for one person to make. Two people actually made it—the declarer and one of his opponents.

East won the first trick with the ace of hearts and returned the suit. South took the second trick with the king of hearts and drew three rounds of trumps. He then cashed the top clubs and gave up a club.

South hoped that the clubs would break 3-3 and that East would win and have to make a fatal return lead. If this plan failed, South expected to lead a diamond from the dummy in the hope that East had the doubleton ace-queen of that suit.

An it happened, West won the third round of clubs with the nine, and East discarded the seven of diamonds. If West had stopped to think he would have realized that nothing could stop declarer from ruffing his last club with dummy's last trump.

Hence West could lead the queen of clubs without doing anything for South that declarer couldn't do for himself. And then South would have to develop the diamonds all by himself.

But West didn't stop to think. He saw only that his partner had made an encouraging discard in diamonds, so West led the queen of diamonds.

This was a fatal error. East played low, and South won with the king. South then led a low diamond, playing the jack from dummy, when West produced the ten. East could take his ace of diamonds, but then South had the rest of the tricks.

Q-CARD Sense

Q—The bidding has been:
North East South West
1 Heart Pass 1 Spade Pass
2 N.T. Pass ?

You, South, hold: Spades K-Q-9-6, Hearts K-2, Diamonds K-Q-4, Clubs J-3-2. What do you do?

A—Bid six no-trump. Your partner's bidding shows a count of 19 to 21 points, and your own count is 15 points. The combined total is therefore between 34 and 36 points, which should be ample to give North a fine play for 12 tricks.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding has been:
North East South West
1 Heart Pass 2 Diamonds Pass
2 Hearts Pass ?

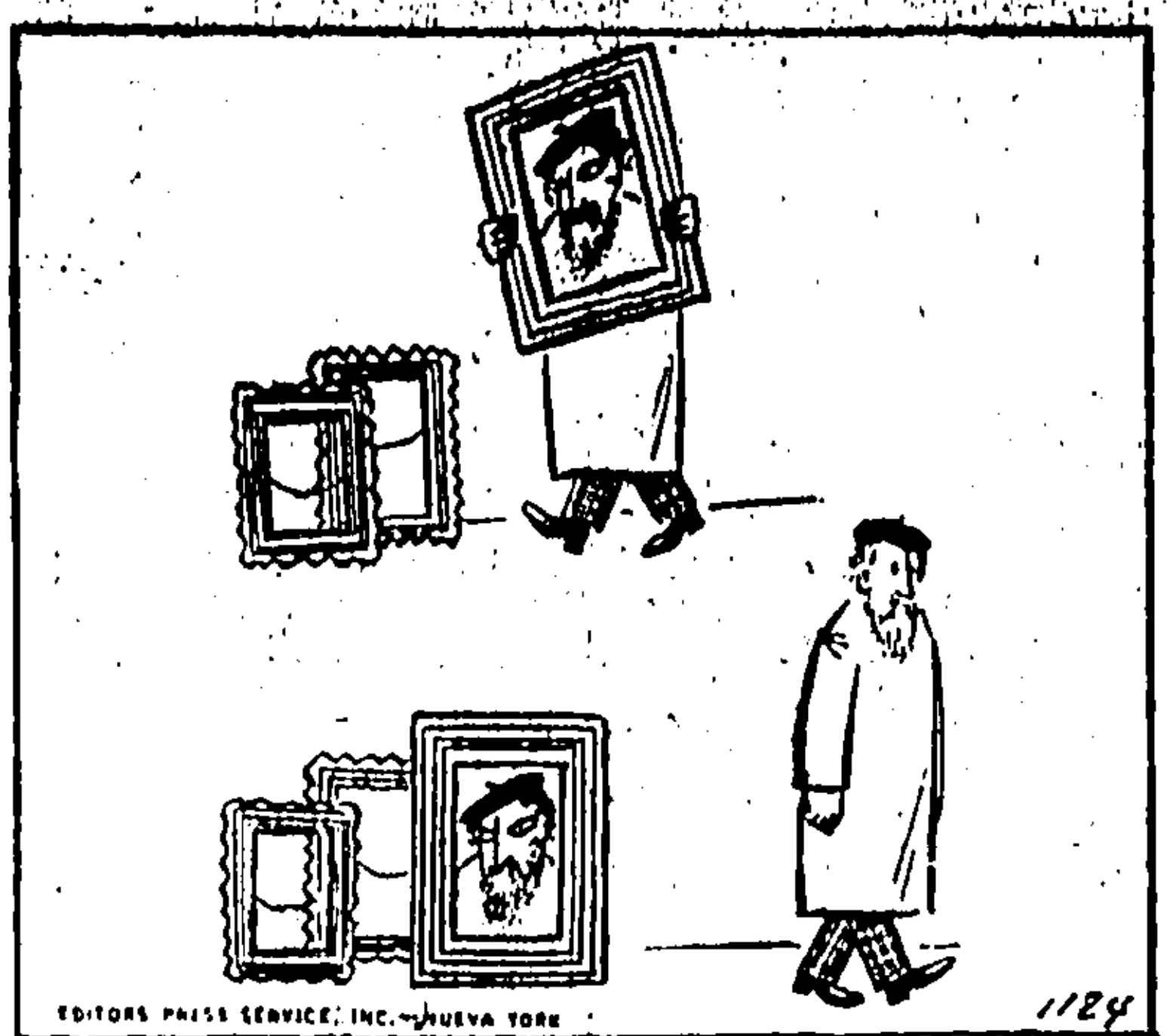
You, South, hold: Spades 7-6-3, Hearts 8-4, Diamonds A-K-Q-9-2, Clubs 8-6-4. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

WHAT'S HER LINE?

Re-arrange the letters of this name—
ELLA BRAIN
—to find her occupation.

(Solution on Page 10)



BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

COME time ago I almost abandoned my campaign to make people eat machinery. My intentions were to release more agricultural land for dirt-freedom, airfields, and television centres, and to strengthen the teeth of the nation.

But a small news item encouraged me some weeks ago. An Italian had offered to eat his motor-car, the whole car, mark you. Not merely the delicious tyres, but the least appetizing engine (with a sauce based on oil and grease). But those who were prepared to release this meat added meat to their diet. I might reasonably expect a change of diet—say, a few iron stanchions, or a train, or a blast-furnace (with pickles). But this pioneer will end by welcoming even a motor-lorry as some variety in his meals.

Change of diet

"DOCTOR," says his anxious mother, "he's off his food. Yesterday he said to me, 'Just a few speaking-plugs, Ma.' Wouldn't you give him a back-ache?" "Put out your tongue," says the kindly old physician. "He's got nothing wrong with you that an iron stanchion or a tractor won't cure. Little does the doctor know that this potent sneaks away to his bedroom and eats six-inch nails on the floor. And when his motor-diet covers this, she says, 'No wonder

you've lost your appetite. It's these snatches between meals. Come down, now. What about a nice bit of steam-roller?"

Lit-ile Bo-Pest

"DAD-DY," is not a plebeian-elite, a truly dem-o-cra-tic procedure? "Of course it is, child."

"Then why do not our M.P.s have one in cot-rect-ion with their rise of pay?"

"My boy, they—er—well—they see not—er—ect-ed them, so they need not con-sult us."

"I suppose it's eas-er to set-tle it among them-selves in a friend-ly, at-mo-sphere, pleb-ia-cite might go against them, and—"

"Go to sleep at once, you wicked child!"

INTERNATIONAL good will is up my street, nay, on my very doorstep. I, therefore, rejoiced when I read that a party of French visitors to England "will have to give an undertaking not to leave the vicinity of their town, except on organized tours." That might do the trick, or, as my paper puts it, with greater dignity, promise good will and understanding between the two countries.

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

BORN today, you are one of the practical, energetic, hard-living individuals in this world. You may have artistic talents, but you don't dabble in them. You are a doer, and you work for you at once, and even in your recreation, which is rightly yours. You believe that labour is worthy of its reward. You are early convinced that being a successful artist, musician, prose writer or poet calls for plenty of labour.

You have a keen, discriminating and practical mind. You are able to turn criticism into a useful tool. You are a doer, and you work for you at once, and even in your recreation, which is rightly yours. You believe that labour is worthy of its reward. You are early convinced that being a successful artist, musician, prose writer or poet calls for plenty of labour.

You women have a deep love for everything beautiful and have a gift for dressing well, decorating your home with elegance and taste and making it a place of comfort and joy. You are the perfect wife for an ambitious man, for you have learned the secrets of proper and casual entertaining and know how to make all kinds of people feel at home in any—kind of circumstance.

Life may not always be an easy one, but you seem only as an incentive to spur you on further effort. Obstacles are just something you go on to get out into the clear and newer success. To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20) — It may be your turn to do a good deed for someone today. It can give you a sense of well-being.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20) — You may have to do a job yourself. If you want it done exactly right, some around with them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) — Be strictly on time to have an important appointment. That is one way to make a good impression.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) — Perhaps you're beginning to think about new spring clothes. A good day to take a look around.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Your judgment is apt to be the best right now, but you feel you want advice. Ask an expert to give it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Keep your nose to the grindstone and finish all work which must be done so that you can play over the week-end.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — If you want to change a habit that you feel is injurious, you can if you are determined enough about it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — You can be the peace maker if you are involved in a difference of opinion. Just don't argue! That will stop it.



DUMB-BELLS

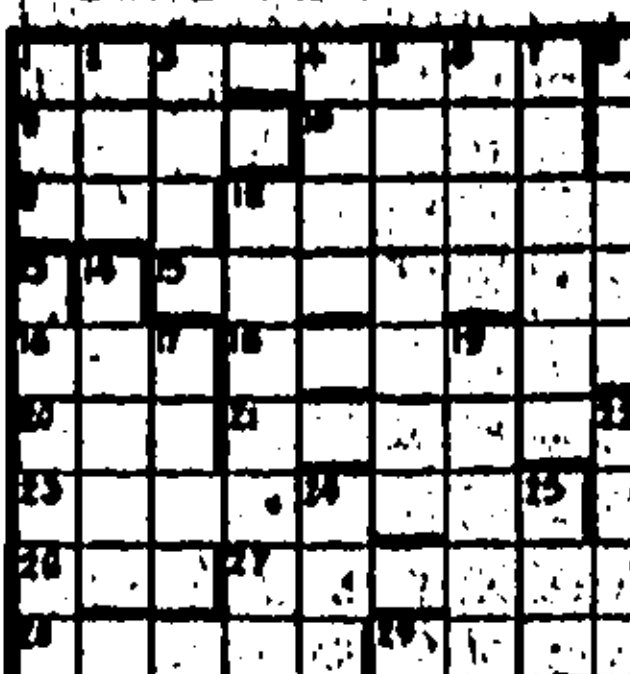
WHEN YOU SEND THIS TELEGRAM BE SURE THE WORDS ARE UNDERLINED.

A Curious Thing

"You know, Pixie O'Scowl," Hanid said, "a few moments later, I've often wondered about one thing."

"Don't bother, telling me!" said Pixie O'Scowl. "Just finish sewing and let me get up!"

CROSSWORD

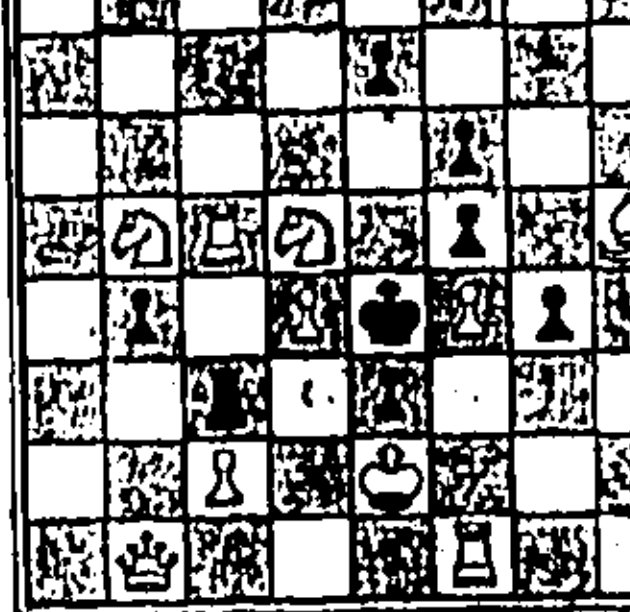


Across
1. Her mood (Anag.) (8)
2. The place of the lovely lady in alone (6)
11. The brooding, stoic sounds like a little one (3)
12. The sound of a fairly musical one (6)
13. Deprave otherwise (7)
14. The end of another one (3)
15. Sounds like a small bus if you include the digit number, about nothing (8)
20. The sound of a usually rattle of a few is down (6)
21. Grave sin (Anag.) (8)
22. Centre of the plot (3)
23. A loathsome feeling (10)
24. Brown it seems (10)
25. The colour of a (10)
26. It's a certain 'y' genuine (4)

Down
1. Go the whole one means being (8)
2. Love m. a initial cash (3)
3. The one leaves the heraldic (10)
4. He wrote about a book of (10)
5. In ran a Buddhist anagram (7)
6. Able, but far from upright (8)
7. The least upset finds a penny in the (10)
8. A critic did and was in Sheridan (6)
12. Lie up nowadays, and the inhabitants, sometimes (8)
13. Timber, but not vast (8)
14. Loved her of the main (8)
15. Departed with the wind (6)
16. Steer a brusque course (8)
17. Inhabitant of a (10)
18. In a way, inhabit 22 down (4)
19. A (10)
20. Could be North, or Red, or (10)

By ALICE ALDEN

The dress of fine silk in rich or brilliant shades, subtly cut and detailed, yet avoiding extraneous trim, is a sure-fire party hit. Teal blue is the colour of such a striking dress of rich poud do sole from the Samuel Winston collection. The flattering wing-shoulder framing bodice is seamed across the bosom for a pretty line. A faint all adds ease and animation to the otherwise quite slim skirt.



White, 10 pieces.
White to play, mate in two.
Solution to yesterday's problem:
1. B-K4; threat 2. R-B5 (ch).
1... R-K4; 2. Kt-B5; 1 B-K3; 2. K-K5; 1 B-K3; 2. K-K3; 1... K-K3; 2. RXP.

CHess PROBLEM

By P. MOUTECIDIS

Black, 3 pieces.



White, 10 pieces.
White to play, mate in two.
Solution to yesterday's problem:
1. B-K4; threat 2. R-B5 (ch).
1... R-K4; 2. Kt-B5; 1 B-K3; 2. K-K5; 1 B-K3; 2. K-K3; 1... K-K3; 2. RXP.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

There Are No Girl Pixies!

—O'Scowl's Glad, He Wouldn't Like Them—

By MAX TRELL

HANID, the shadow-girl with the turned-about name, walked up to Pixie O'Scowl, whom she found sitting on a stone in front of O'Cheer Hall, where the Pixies lived. As usual, Pixie O'Scowl had a frown on his face. In fact, just as Hanid came up, Pixie O'Scowl let out a loud yell. "Ouch!" he yelled, and started sucking his finger.

"My goodness!" said Hanid. "What happened to you, O'Scowl dear? Did you hurt yourself?"

"A Glowering Look" "Did I hurt myself, she asked?" Pixie O'Scowl muttered, giving her a glowering look. "I just stuck myself with a needle."

Hanid now noticed that Pixie O'Scowl was sewing a hole in the seat of his pants.

"Oh, you poor thing!" said Hanid. "Here, let me do it for you. Why, you haven't even got a thimble! Look at the needle you're using! It's as crooked as a fish hook! And the thread isn't more than an inch long!"

"Go 'way!" said Pixie O'Scowl rudely. "I'll do my own sewing!"

But Hanid knew that Pixie O'Scowl wasn't nearly as rude as he tried to sound. She took the needle away from him. Then she picked him up between her thumb and forefinger, laid him across her lap, and started sewing. Pixie O'Scowl squirmed and kicked and kept shouting: "Lemme go!" But Hanid gave him a pinch or two to keep him quiet, then began sewing.

A Good Influence

Hanid sighed as she finished the mending and set. Pixie O'Scowl back on his feet. "I wish I knew Cinderella's fairy godmother or Pinnocchio's good fairy or Tinker Bell. I'd tell them about you and the other Pixies. I'd bet they'd come here at once. You wouldn't be so rude, I'm sure, if they were here. And you'd look prettier, too."

Hanid looked up to see that Pixie O'Scowl wasn't even listening to her. He was dashing down the steps into O'Cheer Hall.

"Thank you, Hanid!" she heard him calling back. "You're a good fairy, yourself! We don't need any others."

It pleased Hanid to hear Pixie O'Scowl say that. But she walked home, still thinking that there ought to be girl and lady Pixies instead of just boys and men.

WOMANSENSE

A PARTY DRESS



Photo New York Dress Institute

By ALICE ALDEN

The dress of fine silk in rich or brilliant shades, subtly cut and detailed, yet avoiding extraneous trim, is a sure-fire party hit. Teal blue is the colour of such a striking dress of rich poud do sole from the Samuel Winston collection. The flattering wing-shoulder framing bodice is seamed across the bosom for a pretty line. A faint all adds ease and animation to the otherwise quite slim skirt.

SARI FITS ANY FORM

Memphis, Tenn.

One style-conscious young woman believes American women spend too much time and money trying to keep up with the latest fashion.

She says they should adopt the Indian sari, a length of cloth which is draped around the body. The recommendation comes from an Indian girl, Shashi Wahl, 20, a senior at Bennington College, Bennington, Vt. Miss Wahl is working in the Memphis library as part of the college's plan of study.

"When I need a new outfit," she said, "all I do is buy six or seven yards of material, hem the raw edges, and I'm all set. And a sari always fits, no matter whether a girl gains or loses weight."

"Why aren't there girl and lady pixies?" Hanid asked.

"That's very foolish," said Hanid. "Lady Pixies could be a great help. You'd never have to worry about doing your own sewing if there were lady Pixies."

"There are no such things," said Pixie O'Scowl.

"There must be," said Hanid.

"There are lady lions and lady tigers. There are lady cats and lady dogs. There should be lady Pixies."

"There aren't!" said Pixie O'Scowl. "That's all there is to it!"

"Of course," Hanid went on. "There are lady fairies. Cinderella's fairy godmother was a lady. Pinnocchio's good fairy was a lady. Tinker Bell was a lady fairy. Don't you know any of them, Pixie O'Scowl?"

"No," said Pixie O'Scowl, "and I don't want to!"

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"No," said Pixie O'Scowl, "and I don't want to!"

You'd Sleep Better If You Worried Less About It!

By W. W. BAUER, M.D.

WHEN it's time to go to sleep, what do you do? Take a warm bath to be sure to ward off wakefulness? Eat a snack; drink some hot milk; avoid eating? Take a walk before retiring? Count sheep? Read yourself to sleep? Turn and toss? Or simply go to bed, settle down and sleep?

Do you insist on a hard bed or a soft one? Must you have darkness, silence, fresh air and just the right temperature? Are you a one-two-or-no-pillow enthusiast?

... AND THE CONFLICT

Too much fuss has been made over sleeping, according to most authorities. It should be a simple, natural function, more or less automatically regulated.

Instead of the ceremony, not to say conflict, which it often becomes. The young baby sleeps a great deal, if he is healthy, happy and comfortable. He hasn't learned about insomnia.

The trouble usually begins when parents insist that he sleep when they want to sleep, or to occupy themselves with other matters undisturbed. Then comes the battle, during pre-school years, over the daily nap, against which the child soon rebels.

This objection is seldom recognized for what it is, a declaration that this extra sleep is no longer needed. The afternoon nap, which puts the child safely and quietly away so mother can accomplish other things, is understandably more popular with the grown-ups than with the young.

How much sleep do we need? This has been reduced to mathematical criteria which have very little scientific support. There is not much likelihood of damage to the health from occasionally failing to get the average amount of sleep commonly regarded as essential—eight hours for the adult, correspondingly more at earlier ages.

There can be definite harm in trying to get more sleep than the body requires, in the mistaken effort to conform to an arbitrary standard. The only standard of adequacy for sleep is whether one feels rested. Some investigators believe that the daytime nap is undesirable for adults, partly because the disposition may be sour upon awaking. Against this is the experience of many thousands of persons who find themselves refreshed and ready for a new start after the proverbial "forty winks."

The experience we call sleep has been extensively studied but never satisfactorily explained. We know that during sleep consciousness is largely but not entirely suspended. We do not see while asleep, but sound may impress us; so may other forms of sensation such as heat, cold or discomfort, though these may be dimmed to the point where they do not rouse the sleeper. Mental impressions may also reach the sleeper. Dreams are indications that mental activity continues during sleep. Induced states like hypnosis, which resemble sleep, and which permit the transmission of impressions, shed some light upon the nature of sleep.

BODY REBUILDS

Physically, sleep lowers the body functions to a point where demands upon the tissues are at a minimum level. The heart beats slowly; so does breathing. Blood pressure falls. The consumption of oxygen is less. The cell processes favour building up and restoration, whereas in wakefulness and activity the opposite is true. As a result, tissue restoration can take place, the end products of fatigue can be removed, and new energy becomes available for a new day. But what induces the

onset of sleep, other than fatigue, is not fully explained, nor is the mechanism of awakening.

SLEEPING POSITIONS

Much emphasis has been laid upon the choice of bed, the type of spring and mattress, and other modern comforts. Actually, the majority of mankind still sleeps on the ground or on floors, without benefit of mattress, spring or pillow. These refinements add to comfort, but it is hard to prove that they have any influence upon the health of the sleeper. Nor does position during sleep—most sleepers change positions many times.

Perhaps if we worried less about sleep, we'd sleep better.

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Perhaps if we worried less about sleep, we'd sleep better.

CLUB BEAT RAF 4-1 IN A FASCINATING FLUCTUATION OF FORTUNES

By I. M. MacTAVISH

It may be that at some future date a football genius will pin-point the reason for soccer inconsistency and save the fans, officials and players the pangs of disappointment and uncertainty.

Until then, however, we shall go on being fascinated by the fluctuation of team fortunes from one game to the next. Only seven days ago the Royal Air Force was on top of the world having scored a thrilling and meritorious victory over South China but against the Club at Happy Valley yesterday they were a very ordinary side indeed.

Gone were the determination and enthusiasm, gone too the skill and the polish that subbed the Champions. In their place we had uncertainty and casualness, desperation and in the end resignation. From a side with only one chance from last week.

WON DECISIVELY

The Club won this game decisively as the worst progress and in the end they might have scored further goals.

Three knockers were taken in the right half at the start but later there was a time when things started to get out of hand and two very serious fouls were committed. Fortunately the referee took a firm hand.

The Royal Air Force got an early lead when newcomer Morris in the Club goal mishandled a shot by Loader and allowed the ball to slip into the net.

It did not take the home team long to get back on level terms, and again it was a gift from the goalkeepers benevolent society. This time MacLaren allowed a half-brit about by McGregor to slip between his legs and trickle into the net.

The second half started with the side still level but two further goals from McGregor and one from Keane gave the Club a clear lead that they never looked in much danger of losing.

Morris in the Club goal appeared nervous in his first senior game but he was probably upset by his early error and may be worth another chance.

Armstrong played intelligently at right back while MacLaren provided the graft and Gaskin the grace in a half back line where Morrow had a tough handful in Loader.

In the Club forward line Keane always looked dangerous when on the run, but McGregor for his goals and Mullen for his early artistry were the leading lights.

SADLY DISAPPOINTING
In a sadly disappointing RAF side MacLaren had an uninspiring game in goal and might have saved both the first and second goals.

Douglas was the better back and gave Pickering a very lean time. Early on Douglas looked a good substitute for Jones at centre-half but towards the end he was being outrun and out-guessed by Keane.

Toth is not nearly such a good player when things are going against his side as he is when they are on top and Martin did not look a representative class player on this display.

Gibby received an early injury and finished the game on the right wing. Armstrong looked the most dangerous forward but seldom got the right sort of passes. Loader tried very hard but was eventually subdued by Morrow.

VERDICT: A decisive victory for the better team on the day's display. The Airmen failed to maintain their recent good form and were knocked off their game by a big and powerful Club side.

THE TEAMS

CLUB: Morris, Armstrong, Tarpey, MacDonall, Morrow, Gardner, Paton, Mullen, Keane, McGregor, Pickering.
RAF: MacLaren, Dowling, Scott, Toth, Douglas, Martin, Tomlinson, Elston, Loader, Gibby, Armstrong.

Aly Khan's Nahar Wins The Lincolnshire

Lincoln, Mar. 24.
France won the first big handicap of the English flat-racing season when the Aly Khan's horse, Nahar, scored a comfortable win in the Lincolnshire Handicap, run over a mile here today.

Nahar, a seven-year-old by Stardust out of Queen of Baghdad, started at 100 to 7 and was the first horse of his age to win this event for more than 70 years.

In the hands of the French jockey Jean Massard, Nahar came through the field with a flourish to go, to beat last year's winner, Sailing Light, the top weight, ridden by Sir Gordon Richards, by one and a half lengths, with Ambassador's Court three lengths away, third of 32 runners.

Sailing Light started at 20 to 1 and Ambassador's Court at 33 to 1. The 4 to 1 favourite, Dumbarnie, finished fourth.

Nahar had finished seventh last year when starting joint favourite for the race. The good going suited him today and though he was not too well drawn in the middle of the field, Massard brought him through well to take the race. Nahar is trained by Alec Head at Malton, Leicestershire, and is the first French horse to win this race since Apin in 1925. He was the only foreign challenger in the race.

It was the smallest field since the war and the attendance in cold, windy weather was one of the smallest ever—Reuter.

England Beats Germany In "B" International

Gelsenkirchen, Ruhr, Mar. 24.
England beat Germany by four goals to nothing in a "B" international soccer match here today. They led 1-0 at half-time.

A capacity crowd of 42,000 watched the match, which was the first soccer meeting of international status between the two countries since the war. England's forward, led the England team well and scored three goals. The other goal was scored by Lee Shannon, Germany's inside right. Germany's sports exports openly admitted their disappointment with the performance of the team.



SYSTEM - STAKE £10 TO WIN 1st RACE BORROW FURTHER £10 FROM BOY FRIEND FOR 2nd RACE ETC. *BRILLIANT*

HKLBA ANNUAL MEETING

Hongkong To Send Five Lawn Bowlers To Empire Games

Hongkong will send a five-man lawn bowls team to the Empire Games in Vancouver in July, the outgoing President of the H.K. Lawn Bowls Association, Mr. J. Noronha, told the General Meeting of the Association yesterday.

Mr. N. Rakusen was elected President and Dr. V. N. Aleniza Vice-President for the coming year at the meeting, which was held in the South China Morning Post Board Room. Others elected were: Mr. F. M. Marshall, Hon. Sec.; Mr. M. B. Hassan, Asst. Hon. Sec.; Mr. J. Tindall, Hon. Treas.; Mr. F. M. X. Silva, Hon. Auditor.

At the start of the meeting the President asked the members to stand for a few moments in silence in memory of bowlers who passed away last year. In particular Mr. U. M. Omar who was always in the forefront of Colony bowls and Mr. L. A. Gutierrez who gave many years of service to the Association as its Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. W. Hollins was elected the Association's Home representative for the Empire Cup in England, an annual match between Hongkong players at Home against a Home team.

The H. K. Football Association will donate \$500 towards the fund for the HKLBA team to the Empire Games. Prison Officers Club will put their dues but will not participate in the league as their greens are going to be pulled up and relaid. It was also learned at the meeting:

1. Confirmed the minutes of the last annual general meeting; 2. Adopted the accounts; 3. Discussed the question of bringing forward the starting times for league games to 3.30 p.m.; 4. Voted its thanks to the S.C.M.B. for the use of its board room, and to the League Management Committee and the Hon. Treasurer for the help rendered during the past season.

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH
The outgoing President's speech, in part, follows: "There is one matter of particular interest, that is that Hongkong will be sending five representatives to participate in the Empire Games to be held in Vancouver in July of this year. A vote of thanks is due to Mr. Rakusen, our representative on the Olympic Committee, for looking after our interests so well."

"We already have 28 players who have signified their willingness to go if selected. I foresee immense difficulties for the incoming Committee in arriving at a final choice and offer for consideration that the solution be for the team to be made an international one. As it happens the cream of our bowlers would just fit in with the team."



You Can't Buy Loyalty, Says Arsenal's Tom Whittaker

Is the power of Arsenal declining? Is the team too old? Has Tom Whittaker been swayed by sentiment in team selection? Are Arsenal too loyal to the old stars? Is the old fighting spirit still there? Is Highbury prestige waning? What of the future?

These are the frank questions I put to manager Tom Whittaker, and here is his equally frank reply: "We have never regretted our loyalty to players," he said. "There is no sentiment in team selection. We pick the man in form."

"What young players could have done better than our older men? It was their tremendous spirit that carried us clear after a disastrous start. They know what is expected of an Arsenal player."

"We played a practice game to sort out a few problems the other day. The boys knew how important it was and played at full match tempo, giving everything they had."

"Arsenal teams have always been judged by exceptionally high standards. That calls for tremendous concentration, and you can't maintain it for ever. You can't buy loyalty such as we get from our players. I have only ever known one man—Ray Daniel—ask for a move from Highbury."

"The average age of our team last August was about 30. That was cut down to 20 at Burnley. A drop of four years in a few months."

HOUSEHOLD NAMES

"Many of our boys have become household names because of their loyal service with the club."

"Don't forget that for the past few years we have been running for Cup or League honours. That wasn't the time to experiment. You don't play around with a match-winning combination."

"Once we were out of trouble I was prepared to use this season as a transitional period. I can try out the youngsters, looking ahead to

next year and the following season. One cycle of success comes to an end, we plan for the next. That is the Arsenal way. There may be mistakes, but we all learn from our mistakes."

"Arsenal's world prestige is as high as ever it was. The team is still a star attraction at most grounds. Arsenal is the match of the year, and Highbury is the envy of the world because of the spirit and loyalty of our players."

(London Express Service)

DESMOND HACKETT'S COLUMN

RUSSIAN MYSTERY GROWS DEEPER

The great Arsenal-for-Moscow plan has become a mystery deeper and murkier than the mighty mother Volga.

It is one long, weary month since the Department for Culture of the Soviet cabled to the Football Association inviting the red-shirted heroes of Arsenal to go to Moscow for two games on August 2 and August 6.

In that long month, little brothers, nothing has happened, nothing at all. One and all seemed to be passing the buck as though it were a Mills bomb with the pin out.

The Football Association formally passes the invitation to Arsenal. No reply. First, Arsenal say they must have a full-scale board meeting to make any decision. Then they say they have heard nothing direct from Moscow.

The Football Association shrugs its shoulders with the sad air of a droshky driver who has been short-changed. "What can we do?" they ask. "Arsenal do not reply, so we cannot reply to Moscow station the Arsenal terms."

NO TERMS OFFERED
And Arsenal drag the thing on like a Russian tragedy with their little piece: "How can we reply when we have not been offered any terms?"

Trying to break things up before the whole affair disappeared under a shroud of dust I tried Arsenal again, asked: "Suppose the terms and conditions were all right, would you be glad to accept?"

The reply was as guarded as an atom plant: "We would give it very careful consideration but we cannot do anything before the end of the month when the board meets."

Which is, of course, where we came in. At Arsenal are trying to play hard to get, this is not the reason for being coy. They are a sopping team and the old glory is wearing thin.

A couple of cables to directors out of the country would sensibly speed up the decision. A brief "Yes" or "No" would enable the Football Association to suggest we export either West Bromwich Albion or Wolves.

HKCC TEAM
The following have been selected to represent the Hongkong Cricket Club in the Harrow Shield Cricket match against Kowloon Cricket Club which is scheduled to be played over the week-end at Chater Road.

The match will commence on Saturday at 2 p.m. and on Sunday at 11.30 a.m.
I. L. Stanton, C. J. B. Leader, G. H. P. Pritchard, G. T. Rowe, D. W. Leach, H. Owen Hughes, K. G. Spink, L. D. Kibbe, A. Harvey, S. Yau, C. A. Bruch, T. J. M. Graham.

Umpires—P. J. Hart and F. Marshall. Scorer: F. McAdam.

BARRY BROWN RETIRES
Sydney, Mar. 24.
British Empire welterweight Champion Barry Brown of New Zealand announced his retirement from boxing following his sixth round technical knockout defeat by Chicago's Freddie Dawson on Thursday night.

After the bout Brown said: "My heart is not in the game."

Home Soccer
London, Mar. 24.
Wolverhampton Wanderers and Bolton drew one goal all in a League Division One match today rearranged from March 13.

In the Third Division (Northern) results were: Chester 0 Middlesbrough 2, Chesterfield 0 Bradford 1, Darlington 0 Hartlepool 1. Reuter.

SOCCER TEAMS FOR ASIAN GAMES

48 CHINESE PLAYERS TO DECIDE TONIGHT BETWEEN HONGKONG AND FORMOSA

Forty-eight local Chinese footballers were yesterday asked by the H.K. Football Association to declare tonight whether they will represent the Colony at the Asian Games next May — "a lifetime decision."

At a meeting of the HKFA Asian Games Committee, the HKFA Chairman, Mr. Jack Skinner, warned the Colony's younger players that under international rules if they represent anybody but Hongkong at the coming Games in Manila they will forfeit the right to represent the Colony at future Olympics or regional games.

This is a lifetime decision, not just for one game. But each player will make his own choice freely," Mr. Skinner said in an emphatic statement before the Committee.

The 48 Chinese players were asked to go to the HKFA office this evening after the Manila-Combined Chinese match to make the irrevocable decision which will once and for all establish which country they will represent in future international football competitions.

Mr. Skinner urged the Colony's younger players to remain with Hongkong. "China will produce all the players they want in the near future. As for Taipei, I'd like to see Taipei go ahead in any way they can go ahead."

The HKFA's "declaration of intention" move yesterday came as a result of the long tag-of-war between Hongkong and Formosa for the Colony's crack athletes

Colony Junior Fencing Championships

Following were the results of the semi-finals of the Colony Junior Fencing Championships held at the European YMCA last night:

Foils: Pool 1: Chan Sion (10), Chang Bing-chang (4), Day (10), Goodall (8), P. Ngan (2), George Wu (10), Pearce (2).
Pool 2: Woo Chi-wai (1), Hung Huk-to (4), F. Fung (3), Hazell (8), Yung Kai-kwong (4), Stanley (4), A. Lam (6), Lau Kwok-chu (3).

Epee: Pool 1: Chan Sion, Day, Goodall, George Wu.
Pool 2: Hung Huk-to, Yung Kai-kwong, Stanley, A. Lam.

Saber: Pool 1: Johnson (11), Lam (11), Pearce (10), Day (10), Day (10), Chang (10), Yung (10), Stanley (10), F. Fung (10), Sion (10), A. Lam (10).

Pool 2: Yung (10), Stanley (10), Chang (10), F. Fung (10), Sion (10), A. Lam (10).
Chang and Yung were promoted to the final, where they were defeated by Stanley and F. Fung.

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"PAKHOT"	Shanghai	3 p.m. 20th Mar.
ARRIVALS FROM	Destinations	Days
"HANYANG"	Kobe	9 a.m. 26th Mar.
"HUNAN"	Tientsin	28th Mar.
"FUKIEN"	Hongkong	28th Mar.

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ARRIVALS FROM	Destinations	Days
"CHANGSHA"	Kobe	29th Mar.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said	Destinations	Days
"ATREUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	24th Mar. 25th Mar.
"BELLEROPHON"	Göteborg, London, Rotterdam, Amsterdam & Hamburg	27th Mar. 28th Mar.
"PATROCLUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Apr. 6th Apr.
"ALCINOUS"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Apr. 14th Apr.
"ANTIOCHUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	23rd Apr. 24th Apr.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

Sails	Destinations	Days
"ALCINOUS"	Liverpool	27th Mar.
"ANTIOCHUS"	Rotterdam	3rd Apr.
"PATROCLUS"	do	6th Apr.
"PERSEUS"	do	13th Apr.
"LAOMEDON"	do	20th Apr.
"ANCHISE"	24th Mar.	2nd May
"CLYTEMNESTRA"	3rd Apr.	8th May
"PYRRHUS"	10th Apr.	14th May

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H.K. to London via Singapore (D.C.4)	11:00 a.m. Wednesday
H.K. to London via Singapore (D.C.4)	12:00 noon Thursday
H.K. to London via Singapore (D.C.4)	1:00 p.m. Friday

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The family of the late Mr. W. C. Lee wishes to thank sincerely their many friends for their kindness and expressions of sympathy in their recent bereavement.

The family of the late Mrs. Lu Kuang wishes to thank sincerely their many friends for their kindness and expressions of sympathy in their recent bereavement.

FOUND

Horn-rimmed glasses at Tumble Lane, Tsim, on Sunday, March 21. Apply Secretary, South China Morning Post.

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THICK BLACK MARKING PENCILS \$40 per gross, \$4 per dozen, 40 cts each. From "S. C. M. Post," Hong Kong & Kowloon.

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NOTICE

THE HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF & GODOWN CO., LTD.
(Incorporated in Hong Kong)

Notice to Shareholders

Ordinary Yearly Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Sixty-third Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Members of the Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., Pedder Street, Hong Kong, on Friday, the 26th day of March, 1954, at Noon, to transact the following business:—

- To receive and consider the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1953 and the Auditors' Report thereon.
- To sanction a Dividend in respect of the year 1953.
- To elect Directors.
- To appoint Auditors.

Closing of Transfer Books.

Notice is also given that the Transfer Books and Register of Members will be closed from the 13th March, 1954 to the 26th March, 1954, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
G. B. S. THOMSON,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 4th March, 1954.

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Sixty-Fifth Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Office of the Company, 9 Ice House Street, 4th Floor, Hongkong, on Thursday, 8th April, 1954, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st December, 1953, and to transact the ordinary business of the Company.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be closed from Thursday, 25th March, 1954 until Thursday, 8th April, 1954, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., LTD.
R. V. LEDERHOFER,
Director.
General Managers.
Hongkong, 12th Mar., 1954.

To ADVERTISERS

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"VIET-NAM" sailing April 22nd

HONGKONG to CASABLANCA in 30 days.
"IRAQUADDY" sailing April 22nd
"INDUS" sailing May 28th

Shipping News

Australia To Get New Pilot Vessel

Just launched at Cowes, Isle of Wight, is a pilot vessel for service on the other side of the world.

The 200ft.-long Matthew Flinders, she was named with a bottle of Empire wine—is to be used by pilots at Moreton Bay, Australia. Twenty pilots will be able to live in the Matthew Flinders, with special protection against tropical conditions. Permanent wood awnings are fitted over the main deck aft.

NEW TANKER

A swimming pool, a laundry and a butcher's shop are all included in a new tanker, the 18,000-ton Hueston, now fitting out at Hebburn-on-Tyne.

Both the captain and chief engineer will have three-room suites, and crew living spaces will be air-conditioned.

There is a separate cabin for every member of the crew. The main cargo space consists of 33 giant tanks.

TANTALON CASTLE III

Due in London soon is the 7,400-ton motor vessel Tantalon Castle. Still to make her maiden voyage to South and East Africa in the Union Castle service, the new cargo liner (she will take only 12 passengers) is the third of her line.

First Tantalon Castle, a sailing ship of 1,097 tons, took the earliest Scottish agricultural emigrants to Cape Colony in 1877.

The second broke the record by carrying 384 passengers from South Africa to Britain in May 1895.

—(London Express Service)

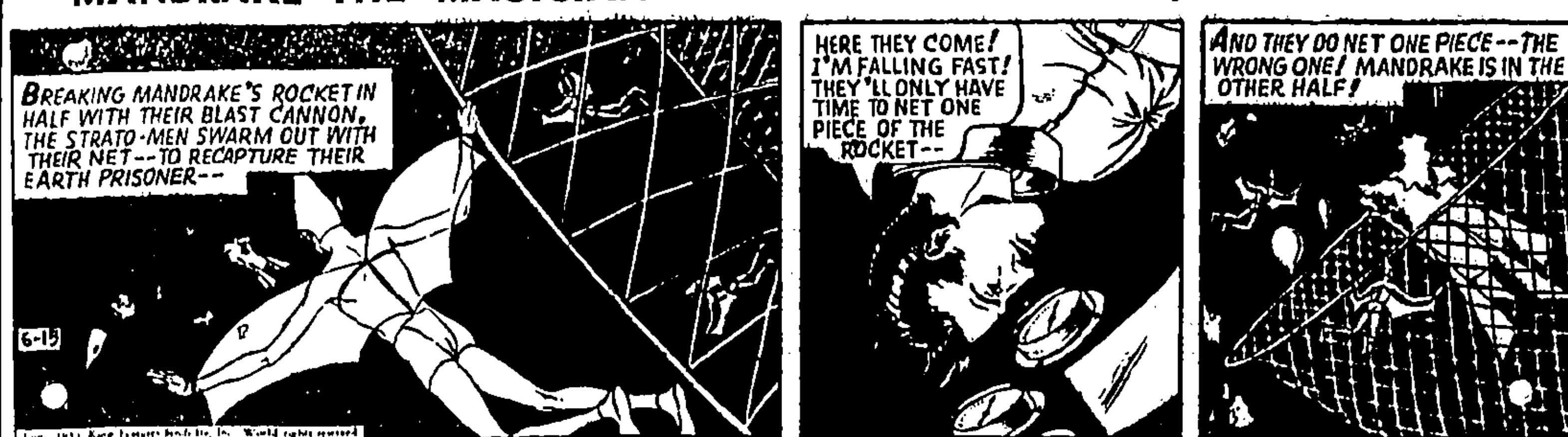
Supreme Soviet To Meet

London, Mar. 25. The Supreme Soviet has been convened for April 20, the Soviet news agency, Tass, announced.

The decree calling the Supreme Soviet was signed by President Marshal Voroshilov and Secretary of the Supreme Soviet N. Pegov.—Reuter.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



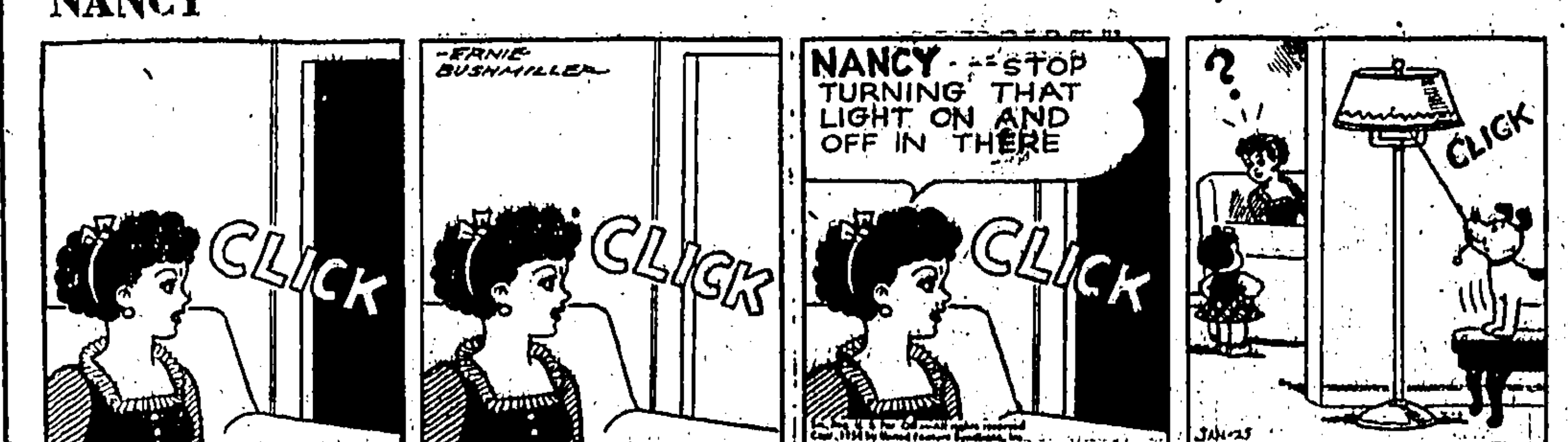
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Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"CORFU"	4th March	6th April
"CHUSAN"	19th March	17th April
"CANTON"	1st April	4th May

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CORFU"	9th April	10th May
"CHUSAN"	2nd May	31st May
"CANTON"	12th May	12th June

Accepting cargo for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London

FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Arriving	From
"SURA"	8th April	UK
Homewards	Leaving	For
"SOMALI"	12th April	Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, Marseilles, Havre, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg

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BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

"SIRDHANA"	In Port sails 25th Mar.	from Japan for Singapore, Penang Rangoon & Calcutta
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"SANTHA"	due 15th Apr. sails 19th Apr.	from Calcutta for Japan

P. & O. B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"ORMARA"	due 31st Mar. sails 2nd Apr.	for Singapore, Madras Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kuwait, Khorrasm-shahr & Basrah direct Other Persian Gulf Ports via Bombay
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EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"EASTERN"	In Port sails 25th Mar.	from Japan for Lab, Brisbane Sydney, Adelaide & Melbourne
"NELLORE"	due 27th Mar. sails 28th Mar.	from Australia for Japan
"NELLORE"	due 10th Apr. sails 20th Apr.	from Japan for Auckland, Wellington, Sydney & Melbourne

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route, & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

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"LENEVERETT"

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Sails Mar. 30 for Kobe & Yokohama.

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Arrives Apr. 3 from Japan.
Sails Apr. 4 for Singapore, Penang, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Khormamshahr, Basrah & Bahrain.

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Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which are general are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office. The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mail can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

By Air
Formosa, Okinawa, Japan, U.S.A. and Canada, 6 p.m.
Philippines, N. Borneo, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Manila, 3 p.m.
Mexico, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

By Air
Thailand, Burma, India, Ceylon, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 11 a.m.
By Surface
Formosa, Japan, Korea, 2 p.m.
Indo-China, 6 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A. & Canada, 6 p.m.
By Surface
China, People's Republic, 8:30 a.m.
Japan, U.S.A., Central & South America, 1 p.m.
Malaya, Burma, India, 1 p.m.
Canada, 1 p.m.
Mexico, 6 p.m.
Manila, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

By Air
N. Borneo, Australia, New Zealand, 8 a.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, 8 a.m.
Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 8 a.m.
Burma, India, Ceylon, 10 a.m.
Thailand, Malaya, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 10 a.m.
Hawaii, 6 p.m.
Formosa, Okinawa, Japan, U.S.A., 6 p.m.

WILDCAT STRIKE

New York, Mar. 24. The International Longshoremen's Association District Council, officially declared a wildcat strike of dock workers today, and threatened to close down the port.

...this situation calls for a
San Miguel

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Page 10 THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1954.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Journey To Peace

FOR the first few months after Donald their boy left their home in Fifehire the mother's and the father's day revolved about the postman's calls.

Each day as they saw him approach on his delivery round, the middle-aged couple became tense and tense; and if he should push open their gate their hearts stopped beating.

When they picked up their letters their hands were trembling.

But the letter they longed for, from their son, never came.

A LETTER ARRIVES

HE had not been a satisfactory son, Donald, but, conversely, as parents will, they loved him, perhaps, even more because of the worry and unhappiness they had spent upon him.

Now he was gone and they lived in fear that he might get into some kind of serious trouble, and need them, and not have them near.

The other morning a letter whose envelope bore a London postmark was among the parents' morning mail. It informed them that Donald was in a remand prison after being found in unlawful possession of a pair of women's shoes.

The parents knew exactly and at once what to do. The father had been ill for some days, but that was not allowed to make any difference.

TO LONDON

MOTHER and father put on their best clothes and caught the night train to London to stand by their son.

They found their way to Dow Street and to the probation office there, from which the letter had come.

A sympathetic probation officer presently took them across to the court. But the long journey had done the father no good, so he sat outside, while the mother, as time went on, she had been going to see her son receive prizes at school, took a seat behind the dock.

DRINKING

HE is a dark, fowled, handsome man of 24, and now the probation officer went into the witness-box to tell Mr. Bert Ram, the magistrate, what he had learned of his history.

"He left home last June, as if she had been going to see her son receive prizes at school, took a seat behind the dock. Donald's case came up towards the end of the morning."

"He got worried about his drinking, and went into a hospital as a voluntary patient, but they found there was nothing inherently wrong with him. Since he came to London eight months ago he has had two casual jobs of short duration."

UNTOLD ANXIETY

HE told the magistrates about Donald's parents and their journey. "A very noble effort," the magistrate said.

"They're only too glad to stand by him," said the probation officer. "They've felt he's been drifting away from them."

"Have you ever thought of all the anxiety you've caused your parents?" Mr. Ram asked Donald. He nodded glumly.

"If I let you go back with them, how are you going to behave when you get there?" the magistrate asked.

"All do my best," said Donald. A fine, strong voice.

"Well, pull yourself together, and try to be a help to your parents, to whom you've caused untold anxiety," said the magistrate. He put Donald on probation.

Donald was shown from the dock for the formalities to be completed. His mother left by another door and joined her husband. That night all three travelled north again, and there was peace in the hearts of the parents for the first time since June. The long journey had been abundantly worth while.

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OUR AUSTRALIAN NEWSLETTER

Royal Tour Still Dominates Everything

FROM H. KING WOOD

Sydney, Mar. 19.

By now only a little more than a fortnight of the Royal Visit remains. By the time you people read this the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will be in South Australia, then the West and the Gothic will sail on April 1.

The visit, of course, has been successful beyond all hopes, and already there is an authentic ring about the statement that the Queen already has made plans to return in eight years. It can be taken for granted that the Duke will be back in 1966 for the Olympic Games, so all in all, while we may have had our failings as far as organisation is concerned, things can't have been too bad.

Points from the Royal Cavalcade: The Royal Dalmians already have had a couple of duces, it's not the cheering mob—it is uniformed characters getting in and out with buckets and swords.

Two trees planted in the grounds of Government House, Sydney, have been transplanted by the Governor. A circular wall and flagging has been built around the site where the Queen's tree now stands—just to make it a bit harder for loyal Sydney-siders who might have ideas about swiping it in the dark of night.

The Duke of Edinburgh brought hours of laughter to an impromptu act as the Royal car passed through Brisbane. Three thousand school children lined the area and in front of them stood the Ascot State school brass band. The Queen drew the Duke's attention to the bandboys. The Duke then half raised himself from his seat. He leaned behind the Queen, stretched his two hands in front of his mouth, and moved his fingers up as he gave an impromptu performance of a musician fingering a cornet. He played an imaginary instrument for about five seconds and caused such thunderous cheering that the Queen looked behind to see what had happened. It is human touches like this that are making our visitors go over in such a mighty big way.

A Dishes of the World feature is to be included in a food exhibition to be held in London this month. The food requested from Australia was—guess?—"a game bird known as galah". The Country Women's Association packed a galah in dry ice and air-freighted it to London—for better or worse. Maybe in the dim distant days outback a nicely baked galah might have been the high spot of the Sunday meal, but today they are definitely not on the menu.

KEEPING CLOSE WATCH

A Japanese tuna fishing fleet operating off Western Australia is being watched closely. The Federal Government is taking precautions to see that none of the ships come within the three-mile limit.

The presence of one of the ships was reported on February 27 by passengers on a liner steaming towards Fremantle. A RAAF Neptune long-range bomber investigated the report and found another three ships about 45 miles off the coast. But what is puzzling authorities here is how the Japs can make a financial do of tuna fishing so far from home. They say that few organisations in Australia could afford the capital to undertake large-scale fishing as carried out by the Japanese.

Master pearlers in northern Australia waters have asked the Federal Government to stop Japanese luggers poaching their pearl beds in the Anzura Sea. They claim the Japanese last year trailed Australian luggers until they began to fish for pearls. Then the Japs called up the rest of their fleet of 25 luggers and quickly cleaned out the beds.

The master pearlers also claim that the Japs are taking half-grown shell and say they will ruin the industry unless stopped. Our headlines this week concern alleged bashing of a member of the police force by members of a statutory body.

It all began with a statutory body.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Imagine growing up with the knowledge that you're a girl!"

Geneva Talks Success "Vitally Important"

London, Mar. 24. Lord Salisbury, speaking for the Government in the House of Lords, said today that it was of "vital importance" that next month's Geneva conference on Korea and Indo-China should succeed.

Success would depend above all on the attitude adopted by Russia and China, he told the House of Lords in a debate on British foreign policy.

"If Russia and China seriously mean to use the Geneva conference as an instrument for restoring peace in the world, they will certainly find us not unco-operative," he said.

Lord Salisbury, President of the Council, said success at Geneva would restore the world's confidence and "bring us back considerably on the way to better times."

It would bring a relaxation of tension which would benefit all nations. He hoped that would be the spirit in which Russia and China would go to the conference.

Other subjects he dealt with were: Russia.

There was reason to believe the Russians were not hankering after a new world war. Russia was on the defensive today. Western ideas were slowly infiltrating beyond the Iron Curtain in Eastern Europe.

The large mail Mr. Anthony Eden, the Foreign Secretary, received in Berlin from Russian occupied Germany was only one of many signs that freedom was "very much alive" in Eastern Europe.

European Defence Community: He was confident of full agreement on the form of Britain's association with the EDC. "A very large measure of agreement had already been reached."

Britain was in touch with France and other countries on outstanding points. Once they had arrived at an agreement, full information would be given to Parliament.

"Any doubt about our sincerity if there are any, will be removed. It will be seen that we are going as far as we possibly can to associate the United Kingdom with the EDC."

It was equally essential for the United States to be associated with the defence system of Western Europe, which was today as much an essential bastion for America as the Low Countries were to Britain in past times.

HIDEOUS REALITY

Hydrogen and Atom Bombs: These were a "hideous reality." The danger was that someone, somewhere would so conduct his country's affairs that almost imperceptibly and unintentionally, it would be driven into a position from where there was no withdrawal without national humiliation.

Lord Henderson, a Labour Peer, who opened the debate, said he thought arrangements should be reached between the East and West, which would make possible "an interlocking of the two systems, based on reciprocal guarantees against any aggression in Europe."

At this point Lord Salisbury said he was not sure whether the Russians would accept the suggestion of a "complete" agreement on the basis of free elections and the government of the country.

FIVE SOLDIERS ON TRIAL

Objection Raised By Defending Counsel

An objection that the cautioned statements of five men of the Royal Artillery charged with assaulting a taxi-driver were not made voluntarily was brought by their defence counsel at Victoria District Court before Judge J. Wicks this morning.

The five are Gunners Alan Williams, Gordon Crawford, Bernard George Francis, George Benjamin Ballam and Samuel Hughes, all of the 20th Field Regiment, 45 Bty, Royal Artillery. Mr T. Shurlock is defending the first and fifth accused, while Mr A. S. C. Comber appears for the other three. Both are instructed by Major F. J. Williams of the Directorate Army Legal Services.

Mr Shurlock said he objected that the cautioned statements made by Williams and Hughes were not made voluntarily but, made as a result of threats.

Mr Comber made a similar objection on behalf of the second and third defendants.

Continuing with the hearing of evidence from yesterday, the Court adjourned for 15 minutes to examine the text concerned in the alleged assault.

The driver sat in the driving seat while five people sat in the places alleged to be occupied by the defendants.

The driver, Leung Cho-ye, then demonstrated what happened on the evening of January 3. After the demonstration Leung was cross-examined by Mr Comber.

Leung said he was treated for injuries at the Yuen Loong Dispensary. He was allowed to go home but did not go back to work for one week.

Dr Yuen Sing-tsang told the Court he had treated Leung on the night of the incident, but his injuries were not serious.

Mr Comber: Could the injuries stop Leung from going back to work the next day?

Witness: Leung had a contusion on his head and I would not like to say with an injury such as that.

Mr Comber: Is the word contusion a medical term for bruise?—Yes.

DEFECTIVE EVIDENCE

DSI William Steele Paton said after Leung had reported the incident at the Castle Peak Police Station he drove toward the Castle Peak Hotel. On the way he saw three of the accused.

He stopped and asked them where they were going. They replied they had come from Kowloon. He shone his torch on the second defendant and saw bloodstains on his sleeve. Asked how he could have got the stain on his arm he said he must have picked it up at Kowloon.

Det. Paton said he asked them to accompany him to the Police Station.

He said he went to the Castle Peak Hotel area and made a search. There, near the 11 milestone, he found the other two accused Ballam and Hughes. They said they had walked from Kowloon. He took all five back to the Police Station for further questioning.

Det. Paton said he interviewed the accused separately. He questioned Hughes first who stated he arrived at Kowloon about 4.30 p.m., walked around for an hour, then started to walk back to Sek Kong. He was arrested on the way.

Det. Paton said he pointed out to Hughes that it was impossible to walk the distance indicated in the time stated. Hughes then indicated he would "tell the truth." He was cautioned and he made a statement.

Defendants Discharged

Radio Hongkong

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